THURSDAY
November 6, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
20 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 56 • No. 262

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

Startup Park
by iQue

INDIA'S FIRST STARTUP PARK LAUNCHES IN BENGALURU

Grand
OPENING

30 DAY STARTUP FESTIVAL

7th NOV 2025
TO
6th DEC 2025

DAY 1 NOV 7 **GRAND INAUGURATION**

Historic launch of India's first Startup Park.

DAY 2 NOV 8 **STARTUP CONCLAVE 2025**

A platform for founders, innovators, and industry experts to share stories, insights, and growth strategies.

DAY 3 NOV 9 **WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS SUMMIT**

Inaugurated by: Sowmya Reddy – MLA, Jayanagar Celebrating women who create, lead, and transform.

DAY 4 NOV 10 **VISION KARNATAKA SUMMIT**

Policy leaders, entrepreneurs & industry voices unite to shape Karnataka's startup future.

DAY 5 NOV 11 **INVESTOR SUMMIT**

Where vision meets venture — connecting startups with India's top investors.

DAY 6 NOV 12 **DEEPTECH CONFERENCE**

Exploring the future of Artificial Intelligence, SpaceTech, Clean Energy & Biotechnology — driving India's next innovation wave.

DAY 7 NOV 13 **EDUCATION & CAREER EXPO**

Connecting education institutes, training academies & career enablers — empowering the next generation of learners and professionals.

DAY 8 NOV 14 **ASIAN–AFRICAN CONCLAVE**

Strengthening cross-border collaboration between emerging economies — showcasing India's global leadership in innovation.

DAY 9 NOV 15 **DEVELOPING TO DEVELOPED INDIA: THE VISION SUMMIT**

A national dialogue on India's growth roadmap — from startups to self-reliance, shaping the journey toward Vision 2047.

DAY 10 NOV 16 **INFLUENCERS SUMMIT**

Where creators, storytellers & digital entrepreneurs unite — redefining influence, creativity, and community in the digital age.

INAUGURATION BY

DK SHIVAKUMAR
(Deputy Chief Minister, Karnataka)

RAMALINGA REDDY
(Cabinet Minister, Government of Karnataka)

CHIEF GUESTS

SOWMYA REDDY
(Member of Karnataka Legislative Assembly)

ASHNEER GROVER
(Entepreneur & Former Managing Director, Bharatpe)

SHAFI SHOUKATH
(Founder & CEO, iQue Ventures)

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS OF HONOUR

ANUPAM MITTAL
(Founder & CEO, Shaadi.com)

SONU SOOD
(Actor | Producer)

SAINA NEHWAL
(Olympic Medalist | Entrepreneur)

S R MEHROZ KHAN
(Vise Chairman, Minister of State Rank)

ADITYA ARORA
(Angel Investor, Faad Capital)

AMAR DIXIT
(Angel Investor, Swiftseed ventures)

ISHANT SACHDEVA
(Venture Builder, Investor, Business Mentor)

MEDIA PARTNER

REPUBLIC

THURSDAY
November 6, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
20 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 56 • No. 262

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

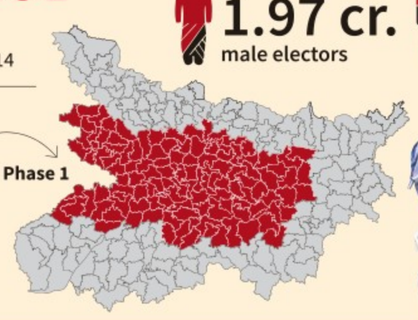
Bihar Assembly polls Phase 1

The map shows the constituencies that will be voting in the first phase of the Bihar Assembly election today. Counting will take place on November 14

The first phase will decide the fate of **1,314** candidates across **18 districts**

121 Assembly seats heading to the polls

According to the Election Commission, out of **3.75 crore** voters in these seats, more than **10 lakh** are "new electors"



1.97 cr. male electors

1.76 cr. female electors

Past results
Across these constituencies in the 2020 Assembly election,

63 seats were secured by the Grand Alliance

55 seats were secured by the NDA

Source: Election Commission of India

RELATED REPORT ON **PAGE 13**

DATA POINT

Can Cong. lose its 'weak link' tag in Bihar?

It had the lowest strike rate, vote share in 2020

OPINION » PAGE 11

BRAZIL PRESIDENT WRITES

COP30 and the moment of truth

EDITORIAL » PAGE 10

Historic win: New York City Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani with his wife and parents after his speech in Brooklyn. GETTY IMAGES

New York gets its first Mayor-elect of South Asian origin

Anisha Dutta
NEW YORK

Zohran Mamdani on Tuesday made history by becoming New York City's first Muslim and South Asian-origin Mayor-elect, and its youngest since 1917, topping off a stunning grassroots campaign led by the message of affordability and upending a political class dominated by wealthy donors.

In his victory speech before a jubilant crowd in Brooklyn, the 34-year-old declared: "We have toppled a political dynasty... tonight, New York has stepped from the old into the new." Quoting from Jawaharlal Nehru's "Tryst with Destiny" speech, Mr. Mamdani said: "Standing before you, I remember the words of Jawaharlal Nehru. A moment comes, which comes but rarely in history, when we step out from the old to the new, when an age ends, and when the soul of a nation, long suppressed, finds utterance."

He defeated both a Republican challenger, Curtis Sliwa, and former New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, who was backed by a coalition of billionaires who spent millions to block Mr. Mamdani's rise.

Highest turnout

"New York, tonight you have delivered a mandate – for a new kind of politics, for a city we can afford, and for a government that delivers exactly that," Mr. Mamdani said. "Years from now, may our only regret be that this day took so long to come."

More than two million New Yorkers voted, the highest turnout for a mayoral contest in more than 50 years, according to the New York Board of Elections.

Mr. Mamdani won 50.4% of the votes, while Mr. Cuomo, running as independent, won 41.6%. Mr. Sliwa won 7.1%.

Message to Trump

During his speech, Mr. Mamdani addressed U.S. President Donald Trump, who had repeatedly threatened to cut federal funding to New York if he won. "If anyone can show a nation betrayed by Donald Trump how to defeat him, it is the city that gave rise to him," he said.

"So hear me, President Trump – since I know you're watching – I have four words for you: turn the volume up." He was later joined by his wife, Rama Duwaji; mother, filmmaker Mira Nair; and father, political theorist Mahmood Mamdani, before walking off the stage to a famous Bollywood track – "*Dhoom machale*" as the crowd erupted in uproar.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12
EDITORIAL » PAGE 10
DEMOCRATS SWEEP POLLS » PAGE 16

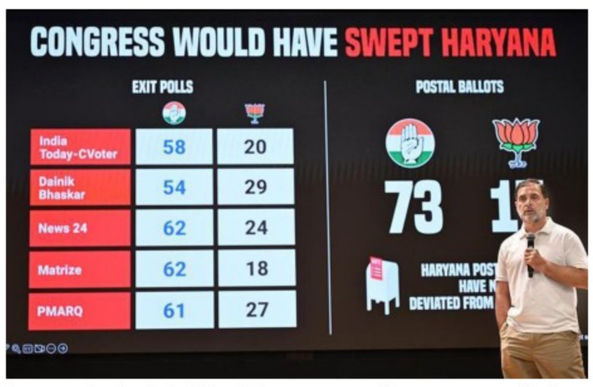
Rahul alleges 'vote theft' took place in Haryana with EC help

In presentation titled 'H-files', Congress leader alleges there had been 25 lakh fake voters on electoral rolls ahead of polls, says a Brazilian model's photo was used for 22 names; he claims 'EC is in partnership with the BJP to destroy democracy'

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday made another major allegation of "vote theft", saying 25 lakh fake voters were added to the electoral rolls of Haryana ahead of the Assembly election in the State in 2024, which the Bharatiya Janata Party won.

Addressing his third press conference under the vote *chori* (theft) campaign, Mr. Gandhi, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, shared the voters' list of the Rai Assembly constituency of Haryana which had the photograph of a Brazilian model 22 times under different names across 10 booths.



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi at a press conference on vote theft allegation in New Delhi on Wednesday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

While Mr. Gandhi called his presentation "H-files", his party colleagues referred to it as the much-anticipated "Hydrogen bomb". In his 80-minute presentation, he said there were 1,24,177 voters with fake photos in Haryana. "One in eight voters in Haryana are fake, and despite that, the Congress lost by a mere 22,779 votes, which was the difference in eight seats," he said.

The Congress leader alleged "Operation *Sarkar Chori* [government theft]" was launched in Haryana to prevent the Congress from coming to power despite all exit polls and opinion polls predicting a landslide win for the party. "The EC is in a partnership with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah to destroy Indian democracy," he said. "If the voter list is a lie, then there is no democracy."

The BJP and EC officials rejected his claims.

With a day to go before the first phase of voting in the Bihar election, the Congress has now alleged that "vote theft" will be employed in the State as the system has been "industrialised".

"You can ask me why you didn't detect them in the voters' list of Bihar. That is because the voters' list comes to us in the last minute," Mr. Gandhi said.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Claims are unfounded, says poll panel

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission has dismissed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's claims as "unfounded", asking why the Congress did not report alleged multiple voting during the Haryana Assembly polls.

It added that the claims ironically support the special intensive revision of poll rolls. It noted that only 22 petitions were pending in the Punjab and Haryana High Court.

FULL REPORT ON » PAGE 12

NEARBY

Wildlife Board for diverting forest land

BENGALURU
The Standing Committee of the State Wildlife Board has recommended forwarding the proposal to divert forest land from the Sharavathi Lion-tailed Macaque Wildlife Sanctuary, to the National Board for Wildlife for approval. » PAGE 8

Siddaramaiah's camp mulls AHINDA meet

BENGALURU
Amid speculation over the replacement of the Chief Minister, Ministers and legislators loyal to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah have planned to hold a convention of AHINDA as a show of strength. » PAGE 8

Champions' welcome

Proud moment: Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the Women's ODI World Cup-winning team at his residence in New Delhi on Wednesday. Mr. Modi lauded the players for their 'remarkable resilience and comeback' after a tough phase in the group stage. PTI

Centre's governance guidelines for AI call for trust and safety

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Advocating a hands-off approach to the regulation of artificial intelligence, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology on Wednesday released the India AI Governance Guidelines.

The document is a significantly changed revision of a framework put out for consultation in January.

The report was drafted by a panel formed in July and headed by Balaraman Ravindran, the head of the Department of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence at the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras. The broader group that worked on the previous framework was headed by Principal Scientific Adviser Ajay K. Sood.

The guidelines will "be a cornerstone in developing AI for India, and can be a role model for AI governance globally", Abhishek Singh, Additional Secretary at the Ministry, said.

The report emphasises seven principles for AI: trust; people-centricity; "responsible innovation"; equity; accountability; understandability of LLMs; and "safety, resilience and sustainability." Mr. Ravindran stressed that the governance guidelines seek to signal India's largely hands-off approach to AI.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Nandini ghee price goes up by ₹90 per kg

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) effected a steep increase of nearly 15% on the price of its popular product, Nandini ghee, from Wednesday.

A kilogram of ghee that was being sold at ₹610 has been increased to ₹700. Similarly, the price of butter has been revised from ₹544 per kg to ₹570 per kg, a rise by about 4.78%.

KMF said the hike was in a bid to keep up with market trends and also ensure continuity of payment of ₹4 per litre to the farmers.

The federation had reduced the cost of ghee from ₹650 per kg to ₹610 per kg after the new tax slabs in the Goods and Services Tax in September. The last hike was effected in the beginning of 2025. The KMF, on an average, sells about 2,500 tonnes of ghee every month.

KMF said the hike was to ensure continuity of payment of ₹4 per litre to farmers.

Passed on to farmers

"Since April 2025, when milk price was increased by ₹4 per litre, we have not reduced the procurement price for farmers. We passed on the entire amount to the farmers. It cost us about ₹4 crore a day. Since a stable payment is being given, milk procurement has not gone down as well. The hike is to ensure continuity in the payment to farmers," KMF managing director B. Shivaswamy said.

On an average, the daily procurement remained at 1 crore litres. Milk procurement in November last year averaged 89 lakh litres daily.

To offset losses

Mr. Shivaswamy said that the hike will help KMF offset losses in conversion of milk to skimmed milk powder (SMP).

Currently, he said, that about 15 lakh litres of the 1 crore kg being procured from farmers are being converted to SMP while about 65 lakh litres are being sold as retail and bulk milk. Another 12 lakh to 13 lakh litres are being used to produce milk byproducts.

"The prevailing market price of SMP is about ₹240 to ₹250 per kg whereas the break-even cost is about ₹260 or above. About 8 lakh litres are being supplied to Ksheera Bhagya scheme. The KMF will be able to recover a part of the cost with the ghee price hike," he added.

Justifying the hike, another KMF official said that the price of ghee or butter had not been revised recently though the international price had shot up. Currently, a kilogram of butter in a 25-kg bulk box in the international market is about ₹560, the official said, adding that despite the increase Nandini ghee is among the cheaper ghee available in the market.

Amul may follow

"The cost of ghee sold by private dairies are still higher. Though Amul is selling ghee at ₹640 per kg, it is also expected to follow KMF. While Amul had raised the price of ghee in other markets, it did not increase the price in Karnataka because KMF ghee was cheaper," the official said.

Six killed while crossing track at U.P. station

Mayank Kumar
LUCKNOW

Six passengers were killed at the Chunar railway station in Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday when they were struck by a train while crossing the tracks after disembarking. The group of women and girls, including two minors, had travelled to Chunar to take a dip in the Ganga on Kartik Purnima.

After alighting from the Gomo-Prayagraj Express on platform no. 4, they tried to cross the railway tracks from the wrong side around 9.30 a.m. when they were struck by another train passing through platform no. 3. "An investigation is under way to ascertain the cause of the accident," said Prashant Verma, Superintendent of Police (Railways).

Following the accident, the track was cleared by 10 a.m., and normal train movement has resumed at Chunar, which is about 40 km from the Mirzapur district headquarters. A safety advisory has also been issued by the Railways.

CM condoles deaths

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath expressed grief and directed officials to expedite relief measures.

"The loss of life in the unfortunate accident is extremely sad and heart-wrenching. My condolences are with the bereaved families," he said.

II PU exam 1 and 2 from February 28 to May 9

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB) has announced the final schedule of Annual Exam-1 and 2 of II PUC and annual exam-1 of SSLC, for the year 2025-26 on Wednesday (November 5, 2025).

The II PU annual exam-1 will be held from February 28 to March 17, 2026 and the annual exam-2 will be held from April 25 to May 9, 2026 across the State.

According to the schedule, the SSLC annual exam-1 will be held from March 18 to April 2, 2026.

AFP

The 'A' matches conundrum: to play or not is the question

The 'shadow' tours are invariably seen as preparatory exercises for the visiting team but in the case of India-A vs. South Africa-A, the hosts will benefit equally; there has been a raging debate about the purpose of these games

R. Kaushik

These are extremely busy times in Indian cricket. Just a couple of days back, the Harmanpreet Kaur-led women's side rewrote history with their maiden 50-over World Cup triumph. The men's team, under the stewardship of Suryakumar Yadav, is engaged in a pitched battle for honours against Australia in a five-match Twenty20 International series that's coming on the back of a three-game One-Day International showdown.

A Rising Stars outfit will leave next week for Qatar to play in the T20 Asia Cup for emerging players while domestically, the Ranji Trophy is in full swing. The men's Under-19 Challenger Trophy, which assumes significance owing to the World Cup next year, kicked off in Hyderabad on Wednesday, while the senior women as well as the men's and women's outfits in different age-groups are also simultaneously in action.

Big faceoff

The big faceoff is a little over a week away. For the first time since they were crowned World Test Champions, South Africa will challenge India in two Tests, in Kolkata from November 14 and in Guwahati, which will host its first ever Test, from November 22. The promise of a stirring contest lingers; for a decade and a half from 1996, South Africa were the most competitive overseas group on Indian soil before going off the boil, but armed with their first solid piece of global silverware, Temba Bavuma's men will be confident of reprising New Zealand's heroics of last year.

While a weakened South African side is currently in Pakistan playing white-ball cricket, some of the Test stars, including Bavuma himself (returning from injury), are in Bengaluru with the 'A' team. In the first of two unofficial 'Tests' that ended on Sunday, India 'A' pulled off a three-wicket heist in Rishabh Pant's comeback to competitive action.

The ebullient wicketkeeper-batter showed no signs of rust while slamming a fluent 90 in the second innings, reiterating that he has recovered completely from the fracture sustained when he inside-edged a Chris Woakes reverse sweep on to his right foot in Manchester in July.

The second and final 'Test' will begin at the BCCI's Centre of Excellence ground, on the outskirts of Bengaluru, on Thursday (November 6). While it will allow Bavuma to ease into gameplay and get used to Indian conditions to the extent that Bengaluru can reprise Kolkata and Guwahati, it will also facilitate several of the Indian Test regulars refamiliarising themselves with red-ball action ahead of the vitally crucial Test series.

Predictably, there were no surprises when Ajit Agarkar's panel named the Test squad on Wednesday evening. Except N. Jagadeesan and Prasidh Krishna, everyone who was part of the 2-0 sweep of West Indies last month has been picked again.

In the three weeks since the Delhi Test ended on October 14, some of those who were part of the West Indies series have played for their respective states in the Ranji Trophy - Ravindra Jadeja for Saurashtra, Yashasvi Jaiswal for Mumbai (on his return from Australia, where he was in the ODI squad without getting a game), Devdutt Padikkal for Karnataka. Others, like opener K.L. Rahul, took a break. Some others travelled to Australia as part of either the ODI or the T20I squads or both.

Those who haven't had any taste of the longer format in the last three weeks and who are not currently in Australia will form a majority of the Pant-helmed squad for the second 'Test'. That makes sense; for all the familiarity with home conditions, it is imperative to get into red-ball mode before the actual Tests, which therefore explains the inclusion in the side for this game of Rahul, Dhruv Jurel (who kept wickets in the West Indies Tests when Pant was unavailable) and the pace duo of Mohammed Siraj and Prasidh, who played in the ODIs Down Under.

Late inclusion

A late inclusion is Kuldeep Yadav, the left-arm wrist-spinner who was one of the bowling heroes in the rout of the Caribbeans. In his first Test match in 50 weeks, Kuldeep took four wickets in the innings victory in Ahmedabad, then brought all his guile and craft to bear against a more resilient batting unit in the next outing at the Arun Jaitley Stadium. On a singularly unresponsive surface that went to sleep on the first morning, never to wake up for the next 100 hours, Kuldeep found ways and means to outwit the batters, snaffling five wickets in the first innings and adding three more in the second to win the Player of the Match award.

Kuldeep was released from the T20I squad after India's comfortable, series-levelling victory in the third game in Hobart, an outing for which he was benched. In the previous fixture in Melbourne, he had been taken for 45 runs in 3.2 overs. With Varun Chakaravarthy, Washington Sundar and Axar Patel available for selection, the Indian team management decided Kuldeep would be better off getting several red-ball overs under his belt, given the pre-eminent role they expect him to play over the next three weeks.

All of this makes so much sense. These 'shadow' tours are invariably seen as preparatory exercises for the visiting team but in this instance, the hosts will benefit equally, at the very least.

The squad for the first 'Test' in Bengaluru wore a different look, with young Mumbai opener Ayush Mhatre, the Under-19 captain, featuring alongside Tamil Nadu wicketkeeper Jagadeesan, Madhya Pradesh's Rajat Patidar, Ayush Badoni of Delhi, the pace duo of Anshul Kamboj (Haryana) and Yash Thakur (Vidarbha), and Madhya Pradesh off-spinner Saransh Jain. Realistically, and with no disrespect, none of them can aspire to make it to the Indian side for the South Africa Tests. Patidar (against England at home last year) and Kamboj (disappointing on debut in Manchester) already boast Test caps and Jagadeesan flew out to London as the reserve stumper to Dhruv Jurel for the decider at the Oval in July. But they, and many of the rest who were part of the squad for the first encounter against South Africa 'A', would have known that even a double-hundred or a seven-wicket haul wouldn't have counted for much when it came to Test selection.

Which begs the question: Would it have made more practical sense for them to have represented their respective states in the Ranji Trophy, where potentially, the stakes are higher and the race for qualification to the next phase is gradually beginning to hot up?

This isn't a one-answer-satisfies-all query. One is not even sure what the protagonists concerned themselves feel about this.

To play/be picked for India 'A' is generally considered the ultimate evidence that one isn't far away from making the next step up, to the national team *per se*. Before the 'A' structure was concretised, that privilege lay with the Duleep Trophy and the Irani Cup, both of which now sadly are struggling for relevance.

The Duleep Trophy, in particular, has undergone so many revamps that it is hard to keep track of what format is being used which year. The timing of the Irani Cup would indicate that it is often viewed as a formality that must be gone through and not the one-time marquee event that pitted the Ranji Trophy champions against the best of the rest in the country.

R.V. MOORTHY

Kuldeep was released from the T20I squad as it was felt he would be better off getting several red-ball overs under his belt

To break into the 'A' team isn't just an acknowledgement of one's performances domestically but also a message to stay fit and relevant because... But that because isn't going to come in a hurry, owing to the fact that after the South Africa Tests, India's next assignment in the current WTC cycle isn't until August in Sri Lanka. Admittedly, there is talk of a one-off Test against Afghanistan at home sometime next summer, possibly after the IPL, but even that is unlikely to see a profusion of new faces, given again the pressing need to put white-ball instincts in cold storage with a first visit in nine years to Sri Lanka looming.

How does playing (or being in the extended squad but not playing) for India 'A' weigh against certainly playing for their states in the Ranji Trophy? Again, it's the players themselves who will be able to give the best answer, and again, it is unlikely that everyone will have the same answer. The states themselves would have loved having their superstars back - Tamil Nadu are struggling to stay afloat in Group A, with just four points from three outings, though Madhya Pradesh and Delhi are slightly better off in Groups B and D respectively with nine and seven apiece.

The unavailability at crucial stages of key players affects state outfits in more ways than just the obvious. It not only deprives them of class, quality and pedigree, it throws their balance off kilter and forces personnel changes that wouldn't have emanated otherwise. Some teams that don't have depth are affected more badly than the others and while states generally don't grudge their players playing at a higher level even if it hurts their own prospects, it's not hard to see why they might occasionally feel hard done by.

Big debate

There's been a raging debate about the purpose of these 'A' games. One group is of the firm belief that it shouldn't just be an opportunity for the internationals to turn up and use it as a means of preparation, because that will undermine, if not belittle, the achievements in domestic cricket over a sustained period of those knocking on the doors of national selection. What is the incentive, this group asks with justification, of putting in the hard yards at the domestic level where, beyond the immediate stakeholders and the well-wishers of the players themselves, no one is around to watch them plug away uncompromisingly? To be picked for India 'A' is an endorsement of their accomplishments, a recognition of their successes for their states.

This isn't a state versus country debate and maybe this conundrum will not be commonplace going forward, but it has nevertheless thrown up an interesting talking point. To be allowed to play for one's state with high collective stakes, or to be picked to represent India 'A' to further their individual cause? What say you?

THE GIST

- For the first time since they were crowned World Test champions, South Africa will challenge India in two Tests, in Kolkata from November 14 and in Guwahati from November 22
- To play/be picked for India 'A' is generally considered the ultimate evidence that one isn't far away from making the next step up, to the national team *per se*
- The unavailability at crucial stages of key players affects state outfits in more ways than just the obvious. It not only deprives them of class, quality and pedigree, it throws their balance off kilter and forces personnel changes that wouldn't have emanated otherwise

HOKMB-TVM/332/2023-C3 (Devp) I/62881/2025

KERALA MARITIME BOARD
(A statutory Board of Govt. of Kerala)

RFP TENDER - DUE DATE EXTENSION NOTICE

The Kerala Maritime Board (KMB) has announced date extension to the bid due date for its **Development of Maritime Enclave at Port Bungalow, Kozhikode (2025_KMB_774245_2)** project. The bid due date has been extended from November 03, 2025, to **November 21, 2025.**

For further information: **0471 - 2910040 | 9544410029**
kmb.kerala@gmail.com and visit **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**

Sd/ **Chief Executive Officer,**
Kerala Maritime Board

D3/853/2025

ANDHRA PRADESH MEDICAL SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
APMSIDC, Plot No.9, Survey No.49, IT Park, Mangalagiri, Guntur District - 522 503

Drugs Wing - Tender No:178-2, 179 & 180-3/APMSIDC/ Medicine Wing/2025-26,

Tender is invited through e-procurement platform (online) for **T178-2:** Procurement and supply of Medicines, **T179:** Procurement and supply of Surgical Consumables & **T180-3:** Procurement and supply of Reagents & Consumables.

For complete details, please visit Website:
https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in

APMSIDC will reserve the right to cancel the tender at any time without assigning any reasons.

DIPR 4543PP/CL, Dt: 05-11-2025 **Sd/- MANAGING DIRECTOR**

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
COMMISSIONERATE OF INDIAN MEDICINE AND HOMOEOPATHY, CHENNAI - 600 106.

NOTIFICATION

Online Applications are invited from the eligible Candidates for admission to Post Graduate Medical Degree courses for the academic year 2025 - 2026 session.

- **M.D. (Homoeopathy)** Govt. Surrendered seats, All India Quota and Management Quota Seats in Self Financing Homoeopathy Medical Colleges.
- **M.D. (Yoga & Naturopathy)** Government Surrendered Seats and Management Quota Seats in Self-Financing Yoga & Naturopathy Medical College.
- For further details, Online Applications and Respective Prospectuses please visit the Official Websites: **www.tnayushselection.org, www.tnhealth.tn.gov.in.**

Date of Notification	**06.11.2025**
Date of commencement of Online application Registration & downloading the Prospectus through website	**06.11.2025**
Last date for Online application Registration	**09.11.2025** up to **05.00** pm

DIPR/1316/DISPLAY/2025 **Commissioner, Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy, Chennai-106.**

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned by Government of Karnataka undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement)

BESCOM invites tenders through e-procurement platform from eligible Bidders for the Enquiry No.: BESCOM/2025-26/EL/WORK_INDENT597 for **"Conversion of LT Overhead bare conductor by LT AB Cable in Bidadi town area of Bidadi Sub Division, Ramanagara Division of Ramanagara Circle area of BRAZ, BESCOM for a period of one year on Rate Contract on Total Turnkey basis"**.

Bid Documents availability: 06.11.2025, **Last date for Bid Submission:** 05.12.2025, 17:00 Hrs. **Opening of Bid Document:** 06.12.2025, 17:15 Hrs.

The Tenders can be obtained through KPP portal web-site http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Aspiring Bidders need to register on KPP portal. Further Bidders can take assistance with KPP help desk contact numbers (+91-8046010000, +91-8068948777) or email at support@eprochelpdesk.com.

Sd/-
For Electricity related complaints call: 1912 Download "BESCOM Mithra" Mobile APP **Chief General Manager (Ele.), Procurement, BESCOM**

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಾರವಾರ
ಸಂ: ಕಾ.ನಿ.ಇಂ./ಲೋ.ಇ.ವಿ.ಕಾ/ಪಿ.ಬಿ–1/ಟೆಂಡರ–19/2025–26/3072 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 05–11–2025

ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಹ್ವಾನ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್)

ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಕೋಷ್ಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವರಿಸಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕಾರವಾರ ಇವರಿಂದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಕೋಷ್ಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವದು. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಲು ಅರ್ಹರಾಗಬೇಕಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು (ಕೆಡಬ್ಲೂ–4) ರಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ಷರತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಗಮನಿಸುವದು.

(1) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ವಿಚಾರಣೆಗೆ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿ: **18–11–2025 16.30** ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ (2) ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿ: **19–11–2025 16.30** ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ (3) ಟೆಂಡರನ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: **20–11–2025 17.00** ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ (4) ಟೆಂಡರನ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: **24–11–2025 17.00** ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಸರು: ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ **5054–MDR Improvements During 2025-26** ವರ್ಕ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್: **(1) PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT24359**

(ಕೆಡಬ್ಲೂ–4) ರಲ್ಲಿನ ನಿಭಂದನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಂದಿನ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ **e-proc** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸೂಚಿಸಲಾದ ನಿಭಂದನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಇಲಾಖಾ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂದರೆ **"https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in"** ನೋಡಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ **help desk Bangalore (Phone No. 918025501216 & 918025501227)** ಇವರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕಾರವಾರ

DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/676/25-26 dt. 05.11.2025

CLASSIFIEDS MART

TO ADVERTISE VISIT
www.thehinduads.com
CALL: Bengaluru: 98455 29981 • 080-22071826
Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 • 2417580
Hubballi: 0836-2338600 • 2335700

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, KUDUWALLI Narasimhamurthy Vindya Shiva Kumar d/o Narasimhamurthy, r/o: Old No–55, New No–35, Near Basaveshwara Temple, Naganayakanakote, Blr–560067. Have changed my name as Vindya Kuduwalli Narasimhamurthy.

I, VIJAY Surya S/o Jaisimha K, R/at No.37, 6th Cross, 6th Main, Malleswaram, Bengaluru-560003, have changed my name from Vijay Surya Jaisimha to Vijay Surya vide affidavit dated 04-11-2025 sworn before Notary K.Mohan, Bengaluru.

THANKSGIVING

Gratitude to Lord
- M.Sainath and Family

SITUATION VACANT

MARKETING

Part Time/Full Time (Male)
For Marketing, Mo.8469592428.

TENDERS

TENDER

SHOWA, Anekal, invites tenders for residential layout maintenance including electrical, plumbing, gardening, security, and facility management. Companies with minimum 5 years' experience may email their profile to hamsadhwaniownersassociation@gmail.com to get detailed specifications and share quotation. Pure security agencies need not apply. Last date: 15/11/2025

CHENNAI PORT AUTHORITY
MARINE DEPARTMENT

Tender Notice
No. M/OPS/F6

e-Tender for Hiring of Green Tug - Manning, Operation, Maintenance and Technical Management of 1 no. 60-ton capacity New Battery Electric Tug for a period of 15 years at Chennai Port Authority.

Est. Cost: Rs.344,92,50,000/- excl of GST

for further details/corrigendum, if any, visit, www.chennaiport.gov.in/eprocure.gov.in
Tender opening date: 29.01.2026

Sd/-
Deputy Conservator.

Rajasthan Urban Drinking Water Sewerage and Infrastructure Corporation Ltd.
Old Working Women Hostel, Behind Nehru Place, Lal Kothi, Tonk Road, Jaipur, Ph: 0141- 2742240, 2742538, 2742263, E-mail: ruifdco@gmail.com, rudsico@rajasthan.gov.in, Web: urban.rajasthan.gov.in/rudsico

F18 (52) RUDSICO/AMRUT-2.0/2024-25/Tender/865 Date :- 24/10/2025

NIB No. 09/2025-26 and NIB No. 10/2025-26

Rajasthan Urban Drinking Water Sewerage & infrastructure Corporation Limited (RUDSICO), a Government of Rajasthan undertaking, invites online unconditional bids on behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan through e-procurement portal http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in from eligible bidders in accordance with the RTPP Act 2012 and RTPP Rules 2013, amended up to date, and under Open Competitive Bidding (OCB) National with single stage-two envelope Bidding procedure for following work.

S. No.	Name of Work	Cost (In Lakh)	Bid Security (In Lakh)	Period of completion
	Rejuvenation of Water Bodies work:-			
1	Rejuvenation of Water Body projects at Jaislmer and Jodhpur North (AMRUT 2.0/RAJ/RWB/01)	8.82	0.176	09 months
2	Rejuvenation of Water Body projects at Baran (Baran) and Mangrol (Baran) (AMRUT 2.0/RAJ/RWB/02)	9.78	0.195	09 months
3	Rejuvenation of Water Body projects at Kama (Deeg), Nagar (Deeg) and Sarmathura (Dholpur) (AMRUT 2.0/RAJ/RWB/03)	12.56	0.251	09 months
4	Rejuvenation of Water Body projects at Mandalghar (Bhilwara), Kapasan (Chittorgarh) and Pratapghar (Pratapghar) (AMRUT 2.0/RAJ/RWB/04)	11.23	0.224	09 months
5	Rejuvenation of Water Body projects at Pilibhanga (Hanumanghar), Rawatsar (Hanumanghar), Baggar (Jhunjhunu) and Sujanghar (Churu) (AMRUT 2.0/RAJ/RWB/05)	7.96	0.159	09 months
6	Rejuvenation of Water Body projects at Sumerpur (Pali), Sadri (pali) and Mt Abu (Sirohi) (AMRUT 2.0/RAJ/RWB/06)	30.68	0.613	09 months
7	Rejuvenation of Water Body Projects at Khandar (Sawai Madhopur) and Dausa (Dausa) (AMRUT 2.0/RAJ/RWB/07)	10.11	0.202	09 months
	Sewerage work :-			
1	Providing a SPS and diverting the flow of existing sewer trunk in the congested area to resolve the issues of blockage and overflow in existing sewerage system (AMRUT 2.0/RAJ/SEW/39)	12.19	0.24	18 months
2	Decentralized Sewerage Treatment Plant at Bharatpur Town (AMRUT 2.0/RAJ/SEW/40)	52.48	1.04	24 months
3	Disposal line for treated water of 34 MLD STP from near existing STP to Gwalda (AMRUT 2.0/RAJ/SEW/41)	70.38	1.40	24 months
4	Additional STP, Sewer network and reuse of treated effluent of STPs in Churu (AMRUT 2.0/RAJ/SEW/42)	69.32	1.38	24 months
5	To provide House Sewer Connections in area where sewer system is already developed (AMRUT 2.0/RAJ/SEW/43)	7.76	0.15	12 months

The details of NIB can be seen at e-procurement portal of state government sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and eproc.rajasthan.gov.in of Rejuvenation of water bodies work date 30.10.2025 at 1700 Hours till the end date of online submission of bids i.e. 21.11.2025 up to 1500 Hours. For Sewerage work date 30.10.2025 at 1700 Hours till the end date of online submission of bids i.e. 01.12.2025 up to 1500 Hours. Any subsequent addendum/corrigendum shall be published only at the e-procurement portal.

NIB Code : RDP2526A0026
UBN No. : RDP2526WLOB00067, RDP2526WLOB00068, RDP2526WLOB00069, RDP2526WLOB00071, RDP2526WLOB00072, RDP2526WLOB00073, RDP2526WLOB00074
NIB Code : RDP2526A0027
UBN No. : RDP2526WLOB00075, RDP2526WLOB00076, RDP2526WLOB00077, RDP2526WLOB00078RDP2526WLOB00079

Raj.Samwad/C/25/13108 **Executive Director RUDSICO, Jaipur**

Your feedback will keep us Cleaner, Sharper and Bolder

Call our toll-free number **1800 102 1878**
Or write to us at **customercare@thehindu.co.in**
Scan the QR code to register your feedback

THE HINDU thehindu businessline. FRONTLINE SPORTSTAR Young World THE HINDU

READ
SPORTSTAR
EVERY FORTNIGHT.
TO SUBSCRIBE, VISIT
www.thehindugroup.in/subscribe

RANI CHANNAMMA UNIVERSITY
Vidya Sangama, National Highway-04, Belagavi-591156
(NAAC Accredited with B+ Grade-2021) PM-USHA (MERU)
Office of the Registrar
Phone No : 0831-2565234
E-mail: registrar@rcub.ac.in
Website:www.rcub.ac.in

Ref No.: RCU/Belagavi/RO/BS/2025-26/4263 Date:05-11-2025

:Press Note:

-: Short Term Tender Notification :-

The Registrar, Rani Channamma University Belagavi invites short term tender for following work on **05.11.2025**. Desired eligible Bidder may apply before **12.11.2025 by 5.30 PM** through KPPP Portal. The work's amount put to tender & EMD details are given as below. For further information kindly visit University website **www.rcub.ac.in** or the Engineering Division at University.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Amount put to tender	EMD
1.	Providing Internal water supply scheme through Borewell Source to RCU New campus at Hirebagewadi, Belagavi **RCUB/202526/WS/WORK_INDENT12)**	Rs.369.00 Lakhs	Rs.5,53,500 Lakhs

Sd/-
Registrar

Government of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTORATE OF MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION
9th Floor Vishweshwaraih Towers, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore 560001.
Telephone: 080-22866302 / 22867172 **Fax:** 080-22863576 /22861665
Email: sedmatech@gmail.com **Website:** www.municipaladmn.gov.in

No: 1802916 DMA/TECH/MGNV/31/2025 Dated: 05.11.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Tenders are invited in KPP Portal for Appointment of Project Management Consultancy (PMC) under Mahatma Gandhi Nagara Vikasa Yojana (Phase-2) for Raichur City Corporation and Infrastructure Development works in Hubballi-Dharwad City Corporation and Vijayapura City Corporation limits. The details are as follows.

SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

Sl. No	Work Indent No.	Project cost (Rs. In Lakhs)
1.	DMA/2025-26/SE5512/CALL-2 Raichur City Corporation	254.20
2.	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT46382/CALL-3 Hubballi Dharwad City Corporation	2616.00
	TENDER NOTIFICATION	
1.	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT51003 Vijayapura City Corporation	4050.00
2.	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT51053 Vijayapura City Corporation	3750.00
3.	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT50998 Vijayapura City Corporation	3550.00
4.	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK INDENT51063 Vijayapura City Corporation	2600.00
5.	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT50997 Vijayapura City Corporation	1050.00

The interested bidders/agencies are requested to participate within the date stipulated in the KPP portal. Any further information can be obtained through KPP portal only.

Sd/-
Director, Directorate of Municipal Administration, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/3618/Zen/2025-26

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SUNABEDA
e-mail - serwsbd2003@yahoo.com

Letter No. 4081 **2nd Corrigendum** Date: 28.10.2025

In continuation to this office Bid Identification No. **CCERWCSBD-Online-18/2025-26** invited vide this office Notice No.3281 Dtd.11.09.2025, partial modification of NCB has been made as follows :-

Sl No.	Item	Time Schedule as per original NCB	Time Schedule as per 1st Corrigendum notice	Time Schedule as per 2nd Corrigendum notice
1	Availability of Tender online for bidding	23.09.2025 at 11.00 AM to 14.10.2025 up to 5.00 PM	Extended up to 30.10.2025 5.00 PM	**Extended up to 18.11.2025 5.00 PM**
2	Date and Time of seeking tender clarification if any	13.10.2025 up to 2.00 PM	29.10.2025 up to 2.00 PM	**17.11.2025 up to 2.00 PM**
3	Date & Time of opening of tender (Technical Bid)	15.10.2025 at 11.00 AM	31.10.2025 at 11.00 AM	**19.11.2025 at 11.00 AM**
4	Date & Time of opening of tender (Price Bid)	Will be intimated later on to the successful bidders	Will be intimated later on to the successful bidders	**Will be intimated later on to the successful bidders**

All other terms and conditions will remain unaltered.

O-1298: **Chief Construction Engineer, RW Circle, Sunabeda.**

GREATER BENGALURU AUTHORITY
Chief Health Officer(PH), Annex-3, Ground Floor,
GBA Head Office, Bengaluru - 560 002.

No. GBA/2025-26/SE0001 Date: 05.11.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Greater Bangaluru Authority invites Short term Tender for procurement of Design, Development, Implement and Maintaining a new web portal that streamlines the ISSUANCE OF NEW TRADE LICENSES, ENABLES SECURE RENEWAL OF EXISTING LICENSES, strengthens compliance, and supports enforcement activities for Greater Bengaluru Authority and it's five city corporations.

1) Following is the Events of Bid process:

1.	Tender Reference No.	GBA/2025-26/SE0001
2.	Date of Commencement of Download of Tender Document from Karnataka public procurement portal website **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**	**On 05/11/2025 onwards**
3.	Date, Time & Venue of Pre-bid Meeting	**10/11/2025 at 11:30 AM** at the following venue: Office of the Special Commissioner (health and welfare), 3rd floor, Annexe 3 Building, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002.
4.	Last Date & Time for uploading Online Queries in Karnataka public procurement portal	**13/11/2025 up to 5:00 pm**
5.	Last Date and Time for uploading of eTender in Karnataka public procurement portal	**13/11/2025, 5:15 pm**
6.	Date and Time of Online Opening of Technical Bids in Karnataka public procurement portal	**14/11/2025, 5:10 pm**
7.	Address for Communication	Chief Health Officer (Public Health), Office of the CHO ground Floor, Annexe-3, Building Bengaluru-560002. Email:choph515@gmail.com Contact:9845208571

Sd/- Chief Health Officer (Public Health)
Greater Bengaluru Authority

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED
Office of the Deputy General Manager-1,BSWML, 1st Floor,
BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 052

No: DGM-1/BSWML/TEND/11/2025-26 Date: 05.11.2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER
(Only through GOK KPP Portal Only)

The Deputy General Manager-1 (Technical), Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML), on behalf of Managing Director; BSWML invites proposals for the works/services mentioned in the below table.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Approx. Estimated capital cost of the project in INR in Crores (Excluding GST)		EMD Amount (in Rs.)	Stipulated Completion of Infrastructure (Including Monsoon Period)
		For Secondary Collection & Transportation (Sec. C&T)	For Processing & Disposal (P&D)		
1	Appointment Of Concessionaire On Tipping Fee Basis To Execute The Comprehensive Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) Facilities Including Secondary Transportation Of MSW From Transfer Stations To Designated Processing Centers And Further Processing And Disposal Of The Same In **North Package (Yelahanka Zone, Dasarahalli Zone, East Zone & West Zone)** of BBMP and Bengaluru Urban District jurisdiction by seeking private sector participation on Public Private Partnership ("PPP mode – DBFOT Model) Call-3.	**788.00**	**1124.00**	Rs.1,00,000/- through e-payment under of one the following i.e., online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the balance Rs. 9,55,00,000/- by Bank Guarantee/ FDR issued by Nationalized/ Scheduled Bank.	24 Months
2	Appointment Of Concessionaire On Tipping Fee Basis To Execute The Comprehensive Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) Facilities Including Secondary Transportation Of MSW From Transfer Stations To Designated Processing Centers And Further Processing And Disposal Of The Same In **South Package (RR Nagar Zone, Mahadevapura Zone, South Zone & Bommanahalli Zone)** of BBMP and Bengaluru Urban District jurisdiction by seeking private sector participation on Public Private Partnership ("PPP mode – DBFOT Model) Call-3.	**802.00**	**1010.00**	Rs.1,00,000/- through e-payment under of one the following i.e., online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the balance Rs.9,05,00,000/- by Bank Guarantee/ FDR issued by Nationalized/ Scheduled Bank	24 Months

NOTE: 1) RFP documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka KPP Portal website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home** under tenders' section. The bid document can be downloaded from the portal as per prescribed date and time published in the portal. Only Interested Service Provider who wishes to participate should remit online transaction fee for tender after registering in the portal. The transaction fee/Bid document/Tender Document fee is non-refundable. **2)** Bidders shall quote & submit the bids only online. **3)** The quoted rates of tipping fee shall be excluding GST. **4)** Other details can be seen in the RFP document.

5. Calendar of events:

Last Date for Uploading Pre bid Queries in KPP portal	11.11.2025 upto 17:00 hrs.
Pre Bid meeting	12.11.2025 at 16:00 hrs. at BSWML office, Vasanthnagar, Bangalore.
Last Date for submission of Bids	27.11.2025 before 16:00 hrs.
Opening of Technical Bid	28.11.2025 after 16:30 hrs.

More details can be downloaded from website - **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/JA/3621/2025-26 **Sd/- Deputy General Manager-1, BSWML**

‘Cobra Beat’ to tackle micro-level congestion

The move is part of BTP’s ongoing efforts to address congestion caused by factors other than infrastructure and to find practical solutions

Chetan B.C.
BENGALURU

Cobras (first responders from BTP) from each traffic police station will be assigned two routes to patrol regularly, particularly during peak hours, to identify and resolve congestion-related problems. K. MURALI KUMAR

In a bid to tackle micro-level issues contributing to traffic congestion, the Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) has launched a Cobra Beat system. Under this initiative, each Cobra (first responders from BTP) from a traffic police station will be assigned two routes to patrol regularly, particularly during peak hours, to identify and resolve congestion-related problems.

The move is part of BTP’s ongoing efforts to address congestion caused by factors other than infrastructure and to find practical solutions. Recently, the department identified 103 bus stops placed in unscientific locations and initiated their relocation. Signal synchronisation has also been adopted to ensure smoother traffic flow across the city.

What is the plan?

Each traffic police station in Bengaluru has three to four Cobras, depending on its jurisdiction. Every station will identify two key and high-traffic stretches for each Cobra in its area that often experience bottlenecks and create ripple effects on adjoining roads. For instance, congestion on Commercial Street tends to spill over to Dispensary Road and other connecting lanes. For constant monitoring, the traffic police will prioritise roads with heavy footfall and recurring issues such as parking in restricted zones and high vehicular density.

Gopal M. Byakod, DCP (South), said that Cobras will focus on resolving such problems during peak hours to ensure smoother traffic movement. “Haphazard parking and vehicle stationing on busy stretches may seem minor, but they effectively reduce road width. The result disrupts the regular flow of vehicles and increases commute times,” he said. “If one wrongly parked vehicle causes a 10-second delay, six vehicles add up to a full minute. Similarly, vehicle stationing and wrong-side driving lead to slowdowns and further delays,” he added.

Enforcement

Beyond maintaining vigil, Cobras can also clamp vehicles and issue violation notices. The initiative is designed not only to enhance enforcement, but also to promote public awareness and better traffic discipline. Karthik Reddy, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic), recently issued a circular directing all Deputy Commissioners of Police (DCPs) to implement the Cobra Beat system by identifying key stretches in their respective jurisdictions.

However, challenges remain. A senior officer explained that the road lengths under each Cobra’s beat vary significantly. For instance, the Koramangala Ganapathi Temple Road is far longer than 80 Feet Road, making it difficult for one Cobra to patrol both frequently.

Alongside the Cobra Beat system, the traffic police have increased their on-ground presence as part of a crackdown on visible violations. The BTP has reverted to its earlier system of intercepting vehicles and levying fines. Senior officers emphasised that the aim is effective enforcement, not harassment, and personnel have been instructed to act strictly on visible offences while maintaining public courtesy.

Pedestrians feel sidelined as traffic signal system prioritises vehicles

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Experts say that Bengaluru’s traffic management approach has long prioritised vehicles over pedestrians. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

Bengaluru’s latest traffic signal system may have brought smoother rides for motorists, but for those on foot, it has made pedestrian crossings an ordeal.

The city’s AI-based traffic signal system, aimed at reducing vehicular congestion, has drawn criticism from pedestrians who say it has left them waiting longer at junctions, while offering barely any time to cross busy roads safely.

The Bengaluru Adaptive Traffic Control System (BATCS), introduced last year by the Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP), uses artificial intelligence and real-time data from sensors to optimise signal timings based on traffic density.

The system, designed to ease congestion and improve vehicular flow, automatically adjusts green-light durations depending on the volume of vehicles at each junction. However, pedestrians say they have been left out of this ‘smart’ equation.

Pedestrians frustrated

“These signals might have made things faster for vehicles, but it has slowed everything down for us,” said Bhuvan K., who works on Cunningham Road.

“At Balekundri Circle, there are four arms to the signal, and to get across the entire junction, I have to wait for more than 10 minutes. Even when the pedestrian signal turns green, it lasts only 30 seconds nowhere near enough to cross from one end to the other. By the time I reach halfway, vehicles have already started moving again. It’s risky and stressful,” Mr. Bhuvan said.

Across the Central Business District (CBD) where *The Hindu* visited junctions, including Minsk Square, Cubbon Park metro station, and Residency Road, similar frustrations are voiced by pedestrians, especially senior citizens.

Ravi Prasad, a senior citizen, said that the short pedestrian signal near Cubbon Park metro station poses daily challenges.

“It’s very difficult for elderly people like us. The signal stays green for only 30 seconds, and most vehicles don’t even stop properly. Two-wheelers often jump signals even when we’re halfway across the zebra crossing. The police should strictly penalise such behaviour,” he said.

Pedestrian Lavanya H., who regularly crosses roads in the CBD, said, “Near Minsk Square, during peak hours, the traffic is chaotic. Even when the pedestrian light turns green, vehicles stop on the zebra crossing. The police rarely intervene. Elderly people struggle the most, but even younger ones like me have to hurry across before the light changes.”

The problem is particularly evident near schools, where large groups of students cross at the same time. At the signal near Bishop Cotton Boys’ School on Residency Road, the pedestrian crossing lasts just 10 seconds.

“It’s simply not enough. Hundreds of us leave school together, and it’s dangerous when the light changes so fast. The signal gives us only about a few seconds at best, and many don’t make it across before vehicles start moving again,” said Manish S., a student.

Experts say that Bengaluru’s traffic management approach has long prioritised vehicles over pedestrians.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, M.N. Sreehari, a traffic and mobility expert, said the system reflects a broader mindset problem.

“It’s unfortunate that pedestrians are not considered an integral part of traffic planning. Authorities assume roads exist for vehicles and footpaths for pedestrians, forgetting that both must coexist. Pedestrian time is seen as an obstacle to traffic flow. But cities are meant for people, not just cars,” he said.

He added that the traffic signals focus solely on vehicle density and ignores foot traffic altogether.

The police should collaborate with urban mobility experts to calculate realistic crossing times based on road width and pedestrian movement, he said.

Issues pedestrians face at signals

- Green signal lasts only 10 to 30 seconds for pedestrians
- Long wait at major junctions in CBD areas
- Two-wheelers jump signals, ignoring pedestrian lights
- Vehicles block zebra crossings during green phase
- Unsafe for seniors and students to cross in time
- Lack of police monitoring at busy junctions
- New traffic signals favour vehicles over pedestrians

Tussle over trash

Return gift: Kannada activist Vatal Nagaraj dumping garbage in front of Greater Bengaluru Authority building on Wednesday as a protest against GBA’s recent action over waste dumping on public places in Bengaluru. SUDHAKARA JAIN

After palliative care, C.V. Raman General Hospital launches oncology services

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Earlier this year, the hospital partnered with the One Billion Lives Foundation, a non-government organisation, to offer geriatric and palliative care to underprivileged patients closer to their homes. FILE PHOTO

After successfully launching palliative care services, the State-run C.V. Raman General Hospital in Bengaluru has now begun providing oncology services. Over the last three months, the hospital has performed seven cancer surgeries and started a day-care chemotherapy unit.

Earlier this year, the hospital partnered with the One Billion Lives Foundation (OBLF), a non-governmental organisation, to offer geriatric and palliative care to underprivileged patients closer to their homes. The services currently cover 12 slums in Hoysala Nagar Ward (No. 80), where the hospital is located.

Under the collaboration, the hospital provides in-patient palliative care and primary day care through community clinics set up in schools and local centres for outpatient consultations and screening.

Day-care chemotherapy

As part of the State Health Department’s initiative, day-care chemotherapy centres were established in 16 district hospitals in August. Between August and October 31, 615 chemotherapy cycles were administered to 252 patients across these centres.

C.V. Raman General Hospital is among the 16 facilities offering this service.

Hospital Medical Superintendent K.S. Rajesh said that with both surgery and chemotherapy now available, the hospital is evolving into a more comprehensive oncology centre.

“We have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sanjeevini Hospital to provide the first and second doses of chemotherapy,” Dr. Rajesh told *The Hindu*. “Our day-care unit has eight beds, and currently, only patients who have undergone surgeries here are availing themselves of the service. However, we are ready to extend this facility”.

Following the launch of day-care chemotherapy, Principal Secretary (Health) Harsh Gupta appointed Venkatesh N., a government surgical oncologist, as the mentor surgeon for oncology services in State-run hospitals.

“Dr. Venkatesh has been conducting cancer surgeries at our hospital and in the Udupi District Hospital. We have a modular operation theatre, and so far, seven surgeries - including breast, thyroid, and ovarian cancers - have been performed,” Dr. Rajesh said.

Dr. Venkatesh said patients receive their first and second chemotherapy sessions at Sanjeevini Hospital before continuing day-care chemotherapy at C.V. Raman.

“At Udupi District Hospital, we have performed 84 major surgeries, including breast, ovarian, and thyroid, apart from over 100 biopsies and minor procedures. We plan to expand surgical oncology services to more district hospitals soon,” he added.

Hub and spoke model

State Deputy Director (Non-Communicable Diseases) Raghunandan said the day-care chemotherapy initiative follows a hub-and-spoke model.

“Since August, 615 cycles of chemotherapy have been provided to 252 patients. While Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust (SAST)-empanelled tertiary cancer centres serve as hubs, the 16 district hospitals act as spokes. Chemotherapy drugs are supplied through SAST,” he said.

“This system reduces travel and delays in treatment, improving access for patients who might otherwise struggle to reach urban centres,” he added.

Only Central govt. has jurisdiction over BMRCL’s industrial disputes: High Court

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a significant verdict that downgrades the State government’s control over management of Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL), the High Court of Karnataka has ruled that the Central government is the “appropriate government” for the BMRCL under the Industrial Disputes (ID) Act, 1947, as BMRCL is a “railway company” and operates with the ‘consent’ of the Centre. Also, the court quashed notifications issued by the State government declaring BMRCL services as “public utility” in 2019 and “essential services” in 2017, while declaring that the State government lacked jurisdiction to issue such notifications under the ID Act, 1947, and the Karnataka Essential Services Maintenance Act (K-ESMA), 2013, respectively when such power is vested with the Centre.

The court also restrained the State government from granting any exemption under Section 14 of the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, to BMRCL from the provisions of this Act, while upholding the Central government’s authority to refer industrial disputes concerning BMRCL to the Central Industrial Tribunal.

Justice Anant Ramanth Hegde passed the order allowing the petitions filed by BMRCL Employees’ Union questioning the State government’s authority under ID Act and the K-ESMA. Meanwhile, the court dismissed BMRCL’s petitions, in which it had questioned the orders passed by the authorities of the

Central government declaring 12 office-bearers of the BMRCL Employees’ Union as “protected workmen” under the ID Act, 1947, during 2019-22.

The court also quashed the BMRCL Employees (Conduct, Discipline and Appeal) Rules, 2014, as it was certified by the State government without the authority to do so.

Centre has control

While analysing the provisions of Central legislations - Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Act, 1978, Metro Railways (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002, and the Memorandum of Understanding amongst the Centre and State governments and BMRCL - the court said that though the State government plays a key role in BMRCL, major administrative decisions require approval from the Central government.

“While both government holds a 50:50 share in BMRCL, the Central government has pervasive control and the State government plays second fiddle to the Central government,” the court said.

The State government’s claim that BMRCL’s Board includes its own Ministers and secretaries doesn’t prove that BMRCL operates independently or solely under the control of the State, as the latter has to act in establishing, maintaining, and operating the ‘railway’ only after necessary approval or concurrence of the Central government, the court said.

‘A railway company’

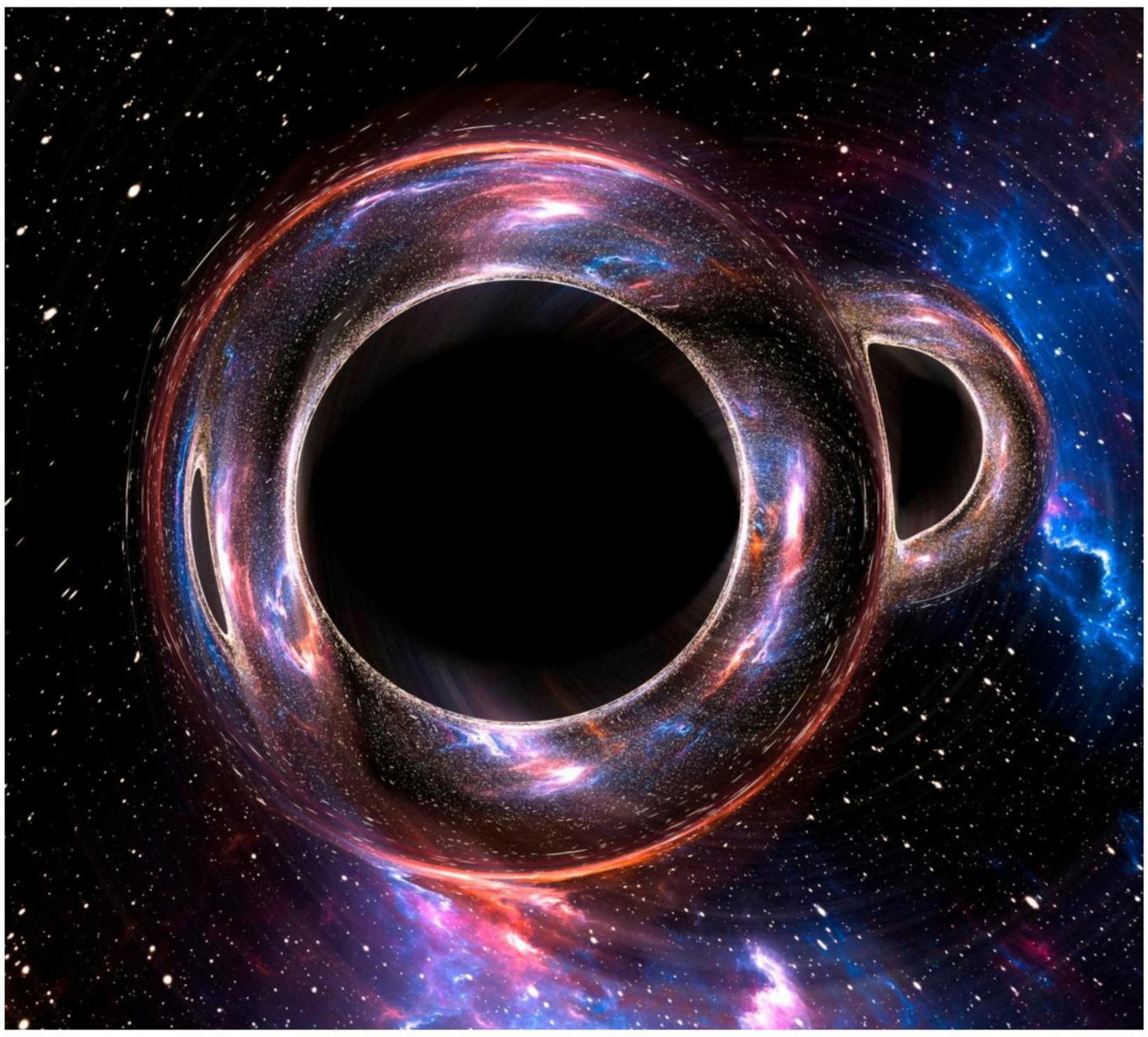
While rejecting the State government’s claims, the court accepted the contention of the Employees’ Union that BMRCL is a “railway company” as per the provisions of the ID Act and the Indian Railways Act, 1890. Since BMRCL is a “railway company”, the court said the “appropriate government” would be the Central government in terms of the provisions of the ID Act and the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition Act, 1970 to address the industrial disputes.

With regard of invoking provisions of K-ESMA, 2013 on BMRCL services, the court, on analysing the provisions of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, and the K-ESMA, 2013, said that transport by railway/metro railway is excluded from the purview of the latter and hence the State government lacked jurisdiction.

Clearest black hole merger signal yet allows probe of Hawking's law

As the clearest gravitational signal ever detected, GW250114 allowed researchers to draw conclusions about fundamental physics.; they analysed the frequencies of gravitational waves emitted by the merger to present the most compelling evidence to date of the black-hole area theorem

Shreejaya Karantha



Artwork of a pair of merging black holes with differing masses. The gravity of the black holes bends and twists light around them. CARL KNOX, OZGRAV, SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

On September 14, 2015, researchers using a pair of giant detectors in the U.S. detected gravitational waves for the first time – a century after Albert Einstein predicted their existence in his general theory of relativity. For their contributions to building these detectors, called the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatories (LIGO), Rainer Weiss, Kip Thorne, and Barry Barish were awarded the Nobel Prize for physics in 2017.

According to the general theory of relativity, when any sufficiently massive object accelerates through spacetime, it will set off ripples of gravitational energy through its fabric. These gravitational waves can travel uninterrupted across billions of lightyears at the speed of light. The louder waves are produced by the most fierce cosmic events, including colliding neutron stars and black holes.

This year, as researchers worldwide celebrated the 10th anniversary of the first detection of gravitational waves, they also announced another groundbreaking discovery. A network of detectors – LIGO in the U.S., Virgo in Italy, and KAGRA in Japan – had detected a clearer gravitational wave signal from a pair of merging black holes. The event was named GW250114 as it was detected on January 14, 2025.

Notably, the researchers said this was the clearest gravitational wave signal detected to date, allowing them to use it to test some of the more elusive predictions of fundamental physics theories.

Their results were published in *Physical Review Letters* in September.

Black-hole hunter

The twin LIGO detectors first detected GW250114. Each LIGO consists of two 4-km-long arms arranged in an L-shape. The arms have a vacuum. At the elbow, a highly stable laser beam is split into two beams and sent down the perpendicular arms, bouncing back and forth between mirrors about 300 times.

When no gravitational wave is passing through the detector, the two beams travel exactly the same distance and cancel each other out when they recombine at a photodetector at the elbow. But when a gravitational wave is passing through, it distorts spacetime there in minute ways, slightly stretching one arm while compressing the other, changing the distance each beam travels by a small fraction. This causes the laser light waves to shift out of phase and produce a measurable flicker of light at the photodetector.

Virgo and KAGRA work on similar principles. When a gravitational wave is detected, the teams operating these three detectors share their data and run joint analyses.

"We look for signals in the data from our detectors with several methods. Some are model-agnostic and others are model-independent," study coauthor, Virgo team member, and Gran Sasso Science Institute doctoral student Jacopo Tissino said.

Model-agnostic methods try to identify excess energy that appears simultaneously across all detectors, without making any assumptions about the nature of the signal. In contrast, model-dependent methods search the data specifically for signals that align with theoretical expectations for black-hole mergers.

The GW250114 signal, which came from about 1.3 billion lightyears away, was detected using both methods.

Cosmic bell

The team found that the new signal was similar to the one detected in 2015.

"They are both pairs of nearly identical black holes, with small or no spin, masses just over 30-times that of the sun each, and revolving around each other in an orbit that's close to a circle," Mr. Tissino said.

Thanks to advances that increased the detectors' sensitivity, the new signal was also much clearer. According to Mr. Tissino, these advances include lower laser noise, cleaner mirror surfaces, and lower measurement uncertainty.

As the clearest gravitational signal ever detected, GW250114 allowed the researchers to draw important conclusions about fundamental physics. Notably, they analysed the frequencies of gravitational waves emitted by the merger to present the most compelling observational evidence to date of the black-hole area theorem, which Stephen Hawking proposed in 1971.

The theorem states that the total surface area of black holes should never decrease, referring to the sum of the areas of the event horizons.

> We look for signals in the data from our detectors with several methods. Some are model-agnostic and others are model-independent
>
> **JACOPO TISSINO**
>
> GRAN SASSO SCIENCE INSTITUTE

To this end, researchers independently analysed the signals from the early stages of the merger, when the black holes were relatively far apart, and from a later post-collision stage, when the merged black holes were settling into a single entity.

"With these two analyses, we could extract the areas of the initial two black holes and of the remnant left after the collision, and directly compare them to confirm that there was an increase as predicted," Mr. Tissino said.

Growing catalogue

After the merger, the researchers also 'listened' to the new black hole's vibrations and identified two distinct modes of ringing. These frequencies indicated that the resulting black hole behaved like a rotating black hole. Such black holes are expected to emit gravitational waves at specific frequencies and these waves are expected to fade at a certain rate.

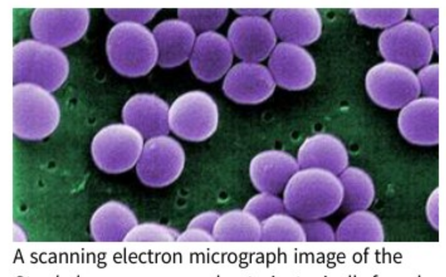
As a result, the new study was also able to empirically verify a solution that New Zealander mathematician Roy Kerr had proposed for rotating black holes in 1963.

Mr. Tissino said that for signals like GW250114, the main sources of error are well-understood and can be controlled. Researchers carefully selected data from different points of time before and after the merger and tested different assumptions, like whether the black holes' orbits were circular or eccentric. In the process, they checked potential issues in the detectors' calibration and confirmed they didn't affect their analyses.

The continuing detection of merging black holes is helping astrophysicists build a steadily growing catalogue that's helping them fine-tune their understanding of black hole formation and test more and more intricate predictions.

As the authors wrote in their paper, "The gravitational-wave signal GW250114 is a milestone in the decade-long history of gravitational-wave science. ... The next decade of gravitational-wave science is bound to enhance our view of these highly dynamical, relativistic systems."

(Shreejaya Karantha is a freelance science writer. shreejayakaranth@gmail.com)



A scanning electron micrograph image of the *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria, typically found in the upper respiratory tract. US CDC

New physics-based model shows healthy guts resist microbial chaos

Vasudevan Mukunth

The human gut is a vast ecosystem of microbes whose balance is central to health. When this balance, known as eubiosis, is disturbed, the result is dysbiosis, which is linked to conditions such as inflammatory bowel disease. Traditional models of microbial communities tend to focus on how many species are present and how abundant they are, but they rarely capture how these species interact. Yet the web of microbial interactions defines whether a community is stable or prone to collapse.

In a new study in *eLife*, researchers from the University of Padova in Italy, ETH Zurich in Switzerland, and Paris Cité University in France sought to fill this gap by using the tools of statistical physics to study microbial ecosystems. Specifically, they borrowed ideas from the theory of disordered systems, which was originally developed to understand complex materials like spin glasses. Their goal was to connect measurable data from metagenomic sequencing to theoretical models that describe how thousands of species interact. By doing so, they hoped to identify mathematical fingerprints that could distinguish healthy from unhealthy gut microbiomes.

The researchers used the disordered generalised Lotka-Volterra model (dgLV) – a framework that describes how populations of species change over time based on random interactions. Each microbial species' growth rate depends on its own capacity to thrive and on the positive or negative effects of other species. The interaction strengths, which are impossible to measure directly, were treated as random variables.

Using cross-sectional gut microbiome data from 91 healthy and 202 diseased samples, they extracted a set of numbers that they used to summarise each community's behaviour. Then, an algorithm adjusted the dgLV parameters so that the model's predictions matched the empirical data. This allowed the researchers to infer the statistical structure of inter-species interactions and to quantify how ecological stability differed between the healthy and diseased samples.

The study revealed that healthy communities had stronger but more heterogeneous interactions that absorbed fluctuations without destabilising the system

The analysis revealed that healthy and diseased microbiomes occupy distinct zones in the model's parameter space. That is to say, healthy communities had stronger but more heterogenous interactions, reflecting a balanced network where fluctuations are absorbed without destabilising the system. Diseased microbiomes had lower interaction diversity and higher randomness, indicating instability and loss of resilience.

Mathematically, the diseased systems were found to lie closer to a critical line that marks the transition to chaotic or unstable dynamics. This suggests that while healthy microbiomes operate in a stable equilibrium, diseased ones hover near disorder.

The new framework reframes gut health as a problem of statistical structure rather than a matter of simple composition. It implies that dysbiosis is less about which microbes are missing and more about how their interactions have weakened or become erratic. As a result, the study suggests that by examining collective behaviour, one might predict or even correct unstable microbial states. The authors also acknowledged limitations in their effort. For one, their model assumes a static set of interactions while real microbes evolve and respond to changing environments in different ways. They suggest future studies might allow interactions to fluctuate, capturing their dynamics more realistically.

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

The infinite wonders of space

Vasudevan Mukunth

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

QUESTION 1

Which rare kind of compact remnant of a dead star spins once every few seconds and sometimes experiences "starquakes" that trigger intense bursts of X-rays and gamma rays, often seen as repeating high-energy flares? This object is also famous for possessing the strongest magnetic fields known in the universe.

QUESTION 2

What do astronomers call worlds of mass comparable to that of a planet but which drift through interstellar space without orbiting any star? They are usually detected using microlensing or a faint infrared glow. Scientists believe they may have been ejected from young systems or formed alone in collapsing clouds.

QUESTION 3

Sometimes a star can be flung from the centre of a galaxy after it interacts with a supermassive black hole, which accelerates it. This star can be flung at lakhs of kilometers per second. What are these stars called?

QUESTION 4

In 2019, astronomers using long-wavelength maps noticed enormous yet faint ring-like structures around distant galaxies, far larger than supernova remnants and unlike known galaxy shapes. What did they call these mysterious features? Hint: the acronym is the name of a fictitious race in the work of JRR Tolkien.

QUESTION 5

What hypothetical type of extremely dense star is proposed to be made of the particles that also make up protons and neutrons? But instead of forming protons or neutrons in the star, their high-energy environs cause them to be "deconfined." The star's density is expected to be between that of a neutron star and a black hole.

Answers to November 4 quiz:

1. Standardised naming system in biology – **Ans: Binomial nomenclature**
2. Physical specimen designated as the name-bearing reference – **Ans: Holotype**
3. Evolutionary tree branch denoting all descendants from that ancestor – **Ans: Clade**
4. When distant lineages independent acquire similar traits – **Ans: Convergent evolution**
5. Method to identify species by sequencing a standard DNA stretch – **Ans: Barcoding**

Visual: **Alfred Russel Wallace**

First contact: K.N. Viswanathan | Tamal Biswas | Anmol Agrawal | Mahima Sajani Jacob | Joe V.R.

Visual: Name this galaxy in the constellation Serpens Caput that's famed for being nearly symmetrical. It was identified in the mid-20th century. NASA/ESA

For feedback and suggestions for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Payments Bank₹

WHEN SECOND COMES FIRST.

Not all missions aim to keep going further or faster.
Some want to take a quiet, steady step back.
And be your shield rather than your weapon.
By making you less vulnerable rather than more powerful.

At Airtel Payments Bank, our business truth is blunt and simple.
We want to be your second bank account. Not your first.
We want you to keep some of your money with us.
Not all of it.

Why do we want to do this?
Because by being your second bank account,
we put your security first. And when you
choose to make daily spends using our account,
you safeguard your main account
from the dangers of fraud.

Truth be told, the more you
bank your faith in us, the richer we become.
And by being your second front,
we will always be your first defence.

Scan to
open your account

No minimum balance needed | Opens instantly

These products are powered by Airtel Payments Bank Limited. T&Cs apply.
For details, visit https://www.airtel.in/bank/static/terms-conditions.
© 2025 - Airtel Payments Bank Limited. All rights reserved.

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Number of left parties that have merged ahead of polls in Nepal

9 Nine left-wing parties in Nepal, including the CPN (Maoist Centre) and the CPN (Unified Socialist), have merged to form the Nepali Communist Party ahead of the March 2026 elections. The merger is seen as a response to growing youth-led protests against corruption and political disorder. PTI

Number of Palestinian bodies received under ceasefire deal

15 Gaza's Nasser Hospital said that it received the bodies of 15 Palestinian prisoners as part of the ongoing U.S.-brokered ceasefire exchange deal between Israel and Hamas. With this, the total number of bodies handed over under the agreement has reached 285. AFP

Value of hybrid ganja seized by Thane police in narcotics raid

76 In lakh. Thane police confiscated hybrid ganja worth over ₹76 lakh and arrested one person during an anti-narcotics operation near a housing complex under the Kapurbawdi police station. Officers recovered 755 grams of hybrid ganja along with mobile phones. PTI

Illegal hawkers evicted from Mumbai's Colaba Causeway

67 The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has evicted 67 illegal hawkers from Colaba Causeway, one of south Mumbai's busiest shopping hubs, during a civic drive. The action aimed to remove encroachments that were obstructing pedestrian and vehicular movement. PTI

Number of booth level officers deployed for SIR exercise in T.N.

68,467 The authorities have deployed 68,467 Booth Level Officers and 7,234 supervisors in Tamil Nadu for the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls that began on November 4. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

Follow us facebook.com/thehindu X.com/the_hindu instagram.com/the_hindu

Challenges facing the upcoming income survey

The upcoming Household Income Survey promises to provide a detailed snapshot of India's households — their incomes, expenses, and changing dynamics. Yet, collecting accurate income data remains a challenge due to the sensitive nature of the questions, which many respondents may find intrusive or difficult to answer

ECONOMIC NOTES

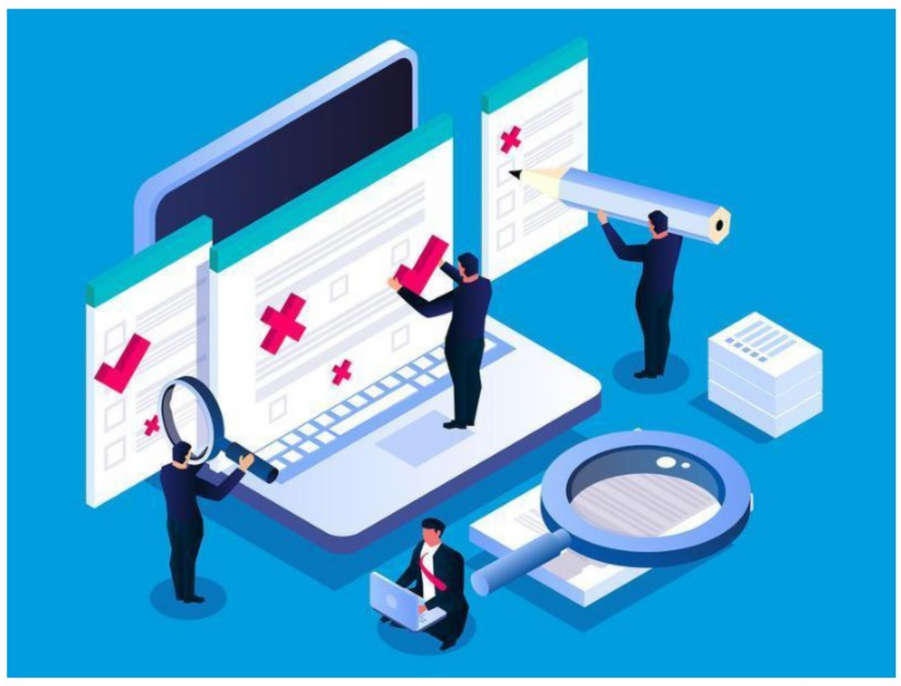
Vignesh Radhakrishnan

The upcoming Household Income Survey, 2026, which is going to be the first of its kind, could offer the clearest picture yet of India's households, revealing how they are coping, changing, and moving towards the future. However, the challenge with such an exercise lies in the sensitive nature of questions about individual income, which many respondents may be reluctant to answer. While the survey design is valuable from a policymaker's perspective, for respondents, such questions can feel intrusive and, in many cases, difficult to answer accurately from memory.

On past surveys

Indian policymakers lack actionable information about household income. While surveys like the Periodic Labour Force Survey attempts to capture earnings, it views wages and salaries through the lens of labour market dynamics, and falls short of offering detailed insights into household characteristics. The Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES) relies on spending patterns to infer household income. While this survey is considered more reliable, using consumption data as a proxy for income involves a leap that may not always hold up in practice. Then there is the RBI's Consumer Confidence Survey which tracks how income levels rise or fall over time among urban and rural consumers. Put together, these survey tools have either captured broad trends in income changes, relied on proxies to gauge them, or examined income through specific analytical lenses.

The upcoming Household Income Survey, however, aims to collect income data to understand income itself and its interplay with other household characteristics. The new survey gathers detailed information on social group, religion, and occupation – covering whether households are engaged in agriculture or other economic activities. It also records land ownership and use, property details such as the size and type of dwelling, and loans taken.



GETTY IMAGES

This survey, for the very first time, collects detailed information on regular salaries, including allowances such as overtime pay, performance-based bonuses, stock options, leave encashments, and severance payments. For casual workers, the survey will record the number of days worked, average daily wages earned, and even tips received. In the case of self-employed respondents, it will gather details on the type of crops sold, the quantity, and the value of those sales. For those engaged in non-agricultural work, the survey will note down the sector of business and the gross value of receipts earned.

By combining such information, the survey will make it easier to understand class dynamics across different types of employment and whether certain jobs are concentrated within specific social groups. It may also shed light on what share of a household's total income goes toward loan repayments – an important metric in an economy driven by EMI-based spending, particularly among urban households. When it comes to agriculture, the detailed questions make this survey an excellent direct tool to test claims like "doubling farmers' income", and assess related government schemes.

Expenses recorded

While measuring income is important, considering spending patterns is equally essential. Therefore, this survey repeats some questions from the HCES. For instance, the survey asks farmers to report input costs for each item, including seeds, labour, and transport. For those engaged in self-employment in other sectors, it seeks details on raw material costs, rental payments, and repair and maintenance expenses. By gathering both cost and income data from the same households, the survey enables accurate measurement of profit margins.

Additionally, it measures pension payments, family support transfers such as alimony or child support, and remittances. More importantly, for the first time, the survey collects data on funds received through State-specific schemes such as the *Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam* in Tamil Nadu, along with several Union government schemes.

Testing troubles

In August this year, the proposed survey was pilot-tested by randomly selecting households across India to answer its questions. This exercise generated some concerning feedback. Close to 95% of the respondents considered the information to be sensitive and felt uncomfortable disclosing income from different sources. A majority of them refused to answer questions about income taxes paid. Most respondents thus are likely to feel cautious when answering these questions. The survey team is aware of this challenge and is addressing it by increasing public awareness, dispelling misconceptions, and planning outreach across various media. They also aim to deploy field staff familiar with local languages to build trust. The testing team observed that respondents in rural areas sought fewer clarifications, whereas those in affluent households asked for more. Due to this hesitation, unusually, the government is considering introducing a self-compilation system exclusively for affluent and gated communities. Under this system, respondents would receive a written request explaining the survey's objectives and the importance of providing accurate income data.

Moreover, during field visits, many households overstated their expenses or misunderstood their income levels. Respondents also found it difficult to recall details about their financial assets and were often unaware of the interest earned from savings or fixed deposits.

THE GIST

- This survey, for the very first time, collects detailed information on regular salaries, including allowances such as overtime pay, performance-based bonuses, stock options, leave encashments, and severance payments.
- In August this year, the proposed survey was pilot-tested by randomly selecting households across India to answer its questions. This exercise generated some concerning feedback.
- A majority of them refused to answer questions about income taxes paid.

What constitutes as contempt of court in India?

How does the Constitution define courts of record? What are the two types of contempt?

C. B. P. Srivastava

The recent controversy over the alleged contemptuous and derogatory remarks against the Chief Justice of India and the Supreme Court has not only raised eyebrows, but can also be considered an act of diminishing the 'authority' of India's top court. Moreover, such remarks being spread through media and social media may also be seen as an act of interfering and obstructing the administration of justice, thereby directly damaging the edifice of constitutional morality. This has been the basis for the demand to initiate contempt proceedings.

Understanding contempt

The phrase 'contempt of court' is used in Article 19(2) as one of the grounds for imposing reasonable restriction on fundamental freedoms yet the Constitution does not give guidelines on how to initiate such proceedings. In India, the Supreme Court and High Court have been designated as courts of record under Article 129 and 215 respectively. A court of record is one whose decisions are kept in reserve for future references and inherently it also has the power to punish for its contempt. This implicit constitutional provision is explained in the Contempt of Court Act, 1971.

The Act classifies contempt into civil and criminal. Section 2(b) of the Act defines civil contempt as wilful disobedience to any judgment, decree, direction, order, writ or other process of a court or wilful breach of an undertaking given to a court. On the other hand, criminal contempt is defined in Section 2(c) of the Act, as the publication (whether by words spoken or written or by signs or by visible representations or otherwise) of any matter or the doing of any act which – (i) scandalises or lowers the authority of any court; or (ii) prejudices or interferes or tends to interfere with, the due course of any judicial proceeding; or (iii) interferes or tends to interfere with the administration of justice in any other manner. This makes it clear that contempt is different from mere disrespect. It is beyond just covering disobedience and disruption in the working of the justice system. The Act further states that the High Court or Supreme Court may initiate contempt proceedings *suo moto*. It may also be initiated by a third party provided the petition has consent from the Attorney General or Advocate General for the Supreme Court and High Court respectively.

The mode of criticism

It is now a settled principle that fair criticism of a decided case is not contempt, but criticism that transgresses the limits of fair commentary may be considered contemptuous as held in *Ashwini Kumar Ghosh versus Arabinda Bose* (1952). Further, in *Anil Ratan Sarkar versus Hirak Ghosh* (2002), it was held that the power to punish for contempt must be exercised with caution and shall only be exercised when there is a clear violation of an order. One of the landmark cases is of *M. V. Jayarajan versus High Court of Kerala* (2015) in which the top court upheld a contempt finding against an individual for using abusive language in a public speech while criticising a High Court order, establishing that such actions could be considered criminal contempt for undermining the judiciary's authority and disrupting the administration of justice. The top Court recently in *Shanmugam @ Lakshminarayanan vs. High Court of Madras* (2025) has held that the very purpose to punish for contempt is to ensure administration of justice.

Criticising the Courts' action democratically is not wrong; however, one needs to consider that the judiciary is playing a crucial role by contributing to setting the priorities for the state so that the sanctity of administration of justice is maintained. Both the state and the citizens need to understand that any kind of misrepresentation would not only amount to contempt, it would also be detrimental to democratic principles, affecting the delivery of substantive justice (elimination of injustices).

The author is President, Centre for Applied Research in Governance, Delhi.

THE GIST

- The phrase 'contempt of court' is used in Article 19(2) as one of the grounds for imposing reasonable restriction on fundamental freedoms.
- In India, the Supreme Court and High Court have been designated as courts of record under Article 129 and 215 respectively.
- It is now a settled principle that fair criticism of a decided case is not contempt, but criticism that transgresses the limits of fair commentary may be considered as contemptuous.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that our clients Sri. Kumar Saurabh M., S/o Madhusudan P., and Smt. Harshita G. J., W/o Sri. Kumar Saurabh M., both residing at 'Saurabha', Abhilash Layout, Gauribidanur Town and Taluk, Chikkaballapur District, intends to purchase the property described in the schedule hereunder (the Schedule Property) from Lt. Col. Vikram Ahooja and his wife Meeta Ahooja, Residents of No.46, HOES Complex, DGQA Complex, Manovikas Nagar, Secunderabad, Hyderabad, Telangana State, who has represented to be the absolute joint owners thereof with an absolute right of alienation over the same. Any person claiming to have any manner of right, title, or interest in the Schedule Property is hereby called upon to notify the undersigned with supporting documents thereof, within ten days (10 days) from the date of this Notice, after which period our Client shall proceed with the purchase of the Schedule Property from the aforesaid owners on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule Property or any part thereof, or any objections for the sale of the Schedule Property by the said owners in favour of our Clients.

SCHEDULE

(Description of the Property)

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of the residential vacant Site bearing No.347, presently under the limits of Bruhath Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and Bruhath Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike E- PID No.8147971260 and property khatha bearing No.325/334/347, BBMP ward No.3 (Atturu), measuring East to West 30 feet (9.1 meter) and North to South 50 feet (15.2 meter), together measuring in total 1500 Square Feet (139.4 Square meter), the said site/plot carved from residential layout known as 'Duo MARVEL residential layout' formed and Developed by Duo Associates, formed on lands in survey Nos.32/1, 32/2, 32/3, 33, 37, 38, 39, 52/1, 52/2 and 53 of Ananthapura Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore and bounded on the: **East by:** The Site bearing No.346; **West by:** The Site bearing No.348; **North by:** Road; **South by:** The Site bearing No.356.

PRAVEEN KUMAR H B, ADVOCATE
Office at: EAGLE LEGAL, OPP. Mini Vidhanasoudha, B H Road Gauribidanur. Ph.No. 9886298492

VIJAYANAGARA SRI KRISHNADEVARAYA UNIVERSITY, BALLARI

Jnanasagara Campus, Vinayakanagara , Cantonment, Ballari-583105

NO. VSKUB/ENGG/Tender-64/D.C&T.C/ 2025-26/ 669/670 Date:4 - 11-2025

Brief Tender Notification (Through e-procurement only)

Vijayanagara Sri Krishnadevaraya University invites tenders from eligible tenderers for **Sl.No:01)** Supply of Desktop Computer to Vijayanagara Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Jnanasagara Campus, Ballari : **Rs.1,83,75,196/-** (including GST). & **Sl.No:02)** Supplying of Computer Lab Tables and Revolving Chairs to Vijayanagara Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Jnanasagara Campus, Ballari: **Rs.19,11,000/-** (including GST). The detail notification regarding the subject enquiry in the e-procurement process can be obtained by login on the website **kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. The other details can be collected from the undersigned upto 15-11-2025 , 05.00 PM.

Sd/- Registrar, Vijayanagara Sri Krishnadevaraya University Ballari-583105.

DIPR/Ballari/626/KSMCA/2025-26

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited

(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through KPP Portal only)

No. SEE/Tr(Op)/C-S/EE(O)/AEE-1/F-29(33)/25-26/3385-86 Date: 04.11.2025

KPTCL invites bid against enquiry No: **KPTCL/SEE/TR(Op)/EE(O)/AEE-1/25-26/EPR-17, Call-1, Dated: 03.11.2025** for erection of 3 no's. of 11kV MEI make switchgears (2 Bank +1 Bus Coupler + 2 Adopter) for replacement of flashed over existing 11KV Megawin make breakers by MEI breakers (2 Bank + 1 Bus coupler + 2 Adopter) at 66/11kV Cessna MUSS in Hoody Division under the jurisdiction of Transmission (Operations) Circle-South , KPTCL, Bengaluru.

The Bids will be received through E-Procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink ' **E Procurement KPTCL**' to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **06.11.2025.** Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer(Elec.), Transmission (Operations) Circle-South, KPTCL, Office Complex, Ground Floor, A.R. Circle, Bengaluru - 560009.

KIDWAI MEMORIAL INSTITUTE OF ONCOLOGY,

Cancer Research & Training Centre
GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION
(Regional Centre of Cancer Research & Treatment Member of International Union Against Cancer)
Dr. M.H. Marigowda Road, Bengaluru-560029 Ph: 080-6669 7999

NO.KMIO/SME(1)/TENDER/M.EQUIP/H&N/467/2025-26 Date: 05.11.2025

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION

Online Tenders are invited in Two Bid System for the following through GOK KPP Portal tender for Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology.

Sl No.	Tender No. & Date	Name of the Items
1	KMIO/SME(1)/TENDER/M.EQUIP/ H&N/467/2025-26, DT: 05.11.2025	Supply and Installation of Medical Equipments to the Dept. of Head and Neck at KMIO., (Estimated Budget: 1.6 Cr)
2	KMIO/SME(1)/TENDER/M.EQUIP/ DMB/468/2025-26, DT: 05.11.2025	Supply and Installation of Medical Equipments to the Dept. of Microbiology at KMIO (Estimated Budget: 24 Lakh)
3	KMIO/SME(1)/TENDER/M.EQUIP/ DMO/469/ 2025-26, DT: 05.11.2025	Supply and Installation of Medical Equipments to the Dept. of Medical Oncology at KMIO(Estimated Budget: 88 lakh)
4	KMIO/SME(1)/TENDER/M.EQUIP/ GYNAEC/470/ 2025-26, DT: 05.11.2025	Supply and Installation of Medical Equipments to the Dept. of Gynaec Oncology at KMIO (Estimated Budget: 1.63 Cr)
5	KMIO/SME(1)/TENDER/M.EQUIP/ DBC/471/2025-26, DT: 05.11.2025	Supply and Installation of Medical Equipments to the Dept. of Biochemistry at KMIO (Estimated Budget: 25 Lakh)
6	KMIO/SME(1)/TENDER/ GENERAL DRUGS & IV FLUIDS/472/2025-26, DT: 05.11.2025	Supply of General Drugs and IV Fluids to KMIO., (Estimated Budget: 3.96 Cr)
7	KMIO/SME(1)/TENDER/ HOSPITAL CONSUMABLES/473/2025-26, DT: 305.11.2025	Supply of Hospital Consumables items to KMIO., (Estimated Budget: 4.33 Cr)
8	KMIO/SME(1)/TENDER/ ANAESTHESIA DRUGS & SURGICALS/ 474/2025-26, DT: 05.11.2025	Supply of Anaesthesia Drugs and Surgical items to KMIO., (Estimated Budget: 3.87 Cr)
9	KMIO/SME(1)/TENDER/INTERVEN-TIONAL RADIOLOGY/475/2025-26, DT: 05.11.2025	Supply of Interventional Radiology and Radiology Items to KMIO., (Estimated Budget: 4.03 Cr)
10	KMIO/SME(1)/TENDER/HNS/476/ 2025-26, DT: 05.11.2025	Supply of Hospital Necessary Supply items to KMIO., (Estimated Budget: 2.35 Cr)
11	KMIO/MNT/TENDER/AC/477/ 2025-26, DT: 05.11.2025	Supply and Installation of Split AC and Ductable AC to KMIO., (Estimated Budget: 23.5 Lakh)
12	KMIO/SME(1)/TENDER/DRUGS/ 478/2025-26, DT: 05.11.2025	Supply of Anticancer Injection to KMIO., (Estimated Budget: 1.55 Cr)
13	KMIO/SME(1)/TENDER/ ORAL DRUGS/479/2025-26, DT: 05.11.2025	Supply of Anticancer Oral Durgs to KMIO., (Estimated Budget: 34.83 lakh)
14	KMIO/SME(1)/TENDER/ ANTIBIOTIC AND ANTIFUNGAL DRUGS/480/ 2025-26, DT: 05.11.2025	Supply of Antibiotic and Antifungal Drugs to KMIO., (Estimated Budget: 1.43Cr)
15	KMIO/SME(1)/TENDER/DRUGS/ 481/2025-26, DT: 05.11.2025	Short Term tender for Supply of Drugs to KMIO. (Estimated Budget: 20.30 Lakh)
16	KMIO/MNT/ELECTRICAL/446/ 2025-26, DT: 05.11.2025 (Call-2)	Providing CAMC (Comprehensive Annual Maintenance contract services) services for Air conditioning units, Air Handling units (AHU, s) 24x7 at various Units including BMT(Bone Marrow Transplant unit) at KMIO (Estimated Cost: Rs. 90.32 Lakhs)

The Bid Document will be available in online for **Sl. No. 01 to 10** from **10.11.2025** to **10.12.2025** and for **Sl. No. 11 to 14** from **10.11.2025** to **24.11.2025** and **Sl. No. 15 to 16** from **10.11.2025** to **19.11.2025.** Bidders can view and download the Bid Document from the Website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Bids have to be submitted through e-Procurement Portal and e-procurement Portal fees. The last date and time of Receipt of Bid through e-Procurement Portal is **10.12.2025, 24.11.2025** & **19.11.2025** till **4-00 P.M.** Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to accept/reject/cancel the tender without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/- Financial Advisor

DIPR/SI/3592/2025-26

ಪುರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ಆನೇಕಲ್

ಆನೇಕಲ್ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ – 562106. ಫೋನ್ : 080–27859225,
ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ : 080–27830092, Email :- itstaff_ulb_anekal@yahoo.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಪು.ಕಾ.ಆ/ಆ.ಶಾ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/07/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 05.11.2025

ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಆನೇಕಲ್ ಪುರಸಭೆಯ 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿದಾರರು/ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು/ಬಿಡ್‌ದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಸ್ಟಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್‌ನ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಡೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಶಾಖೆಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಂದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಮತ್ತು ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ಮಾನದಂಡಗಳ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳ ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಯಶಸ್ವಿ ಬಿಡ್ದುದಾರರನ್ನು ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ವಿವರ	ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) (2.5%)
1	ಆನೇಕಲ್ ಪುರಸಭಾ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಘನತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗೆ 16 ಕ್ಯೂಮೀ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಕಾಂಪ್ಯಾಕ್ಟರ್ ವಾಹನ ಖರೀದಿಸಲು	DMA/2025-26/ IND5300/Call-2	53.00	1,06,000/–

ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ :

1. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **15.11.2025** ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ **5.30** ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ
2. ಸ್ವೀಕೃತವಾದ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **17.11.2025** ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ **4.30** ಘಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ.
3. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
ಪುರಸಭೆ ಆನೇಕಲ್

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾ.ಪ್ರ/ಎಸ್‌ಎಸ್‌ಒ/3620/2025–26

Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development and Finance Corporation Ltd.

Nagarabhivruddi Bhavan, #22, 17th 'F' Cross, Old Madras Road, Indiranagar 2nd Stage, Near BMTC Bus Depot, Bengaluru-560 038. Telephone No: 91-80-25196100, 25196124 Fax: 080-25196110 e-mail: info@kuidfc.com Website: www.kuidfc.com

No: KUIDFC/UWM/TEND/22/2025-26/3863 Date: 04.11.2025

Tender Notification

KUIDFC invites tenders under NGT Environmental compensation fund and SBM (U) 2.0 fund for below mentioned project from the eligible Contractors. The tender document will be available on KPP portal of GoK (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to Tender (Excl GST) Rs. in Lakhs	Earnest Money Deposit Rs. in Lakhs
1	Construction of Sewage Treatment Plants (STP) of varying capacities of **1.69 to 2.40 MLD** in **Kamalapura** & **Yadrami** ULBs of Kalburgi District, **Kavital** ULB of Raichur District and Rehabilitation of existing STP of **Gurmatkal** ULB of Yadgir District with 5 years Operation and Maintenance (including 1-year Defect liability period) under Swachh Bharat Mission (U)-2.0 fund through Design, Built, Operate and Transfer (DBOT) model. **(Package: SBM/ KLB_Pkg-5) Call-2**	**934.12**	**14.00**
2	Construction of Sewage Treatment Plants (STP) of varying capacities of **2.74 to 2.91 MLD** in **Kudatini** ULB of Ballari District, **Kukanoor** & **Tavaragera** ULBs of Koppal District and **Mariyammanahalli** ULB of Vijayanagara District with 5 years Operation and Maintenance (including 1-year Defect liability period) under Swachh Bharat Mission (U)-2.0 fund through Design, Built, Operate and Transfer (DBOT) model. **(Package: SBM/KLB_Pkg-6) Call-2**	**1355.10**	**14.00**

1) Tender Publish Date: **05.11.2025.** 2) Pre-bid meeting Date & Time: **12.11.2025 Time: 11.30 AM.** 3) Last Date & Time for Bid submission: **18.11.2025 Time: 5.30 PM.** 4) Date & Time of Opening of Technical bid: **20.11.2025 Time: 11.30 AM.** 5) Date & Time of Opening of Financial bid: **06.12.2025 Time: 11.30 AM.**

Interested bidders may view, download & upload the tenders only through KPP portal. Any further notification will be through KPP portal and KUIDFC official website only.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer, Project Monitoring Unit, UWM-KUIDFC, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/3588/MAA/2025-26

INNOVATE KARNATAKA — K-tech

(Department of Electronics, IT and Bt)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP NOTICE No: ITBTST/2024-25/SE0020/CALL-3

Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS), Department of Electronics, IT and Bt and S&T intends to **empanel implementing partner for the K-Tech Center of Excellence - Gaming** in Karnataka. In this regard, KITS invites proposals from the qualified agencies in response to the Request for Proposal (RFP)

The interested agencies are required to download the soft copy of the Request for Proposals and upload the proposal (in PDF format) on Karnataka Public Procurement Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in through the bidder's Digital Signature Certificate (DSC).

Any notices / information related to this Request for Proposals in the future shall be available on https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only.

The application Starts from **06.11.2025 and ends on 05.12.2025, 4.00 P.M.** Refer to the Request for Proposals document for eligibility criteria and other conditions

Sd/-
Managing Director

KARNATAKA INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY (KITS)
Department of Electronics, IT & BT, Government of Karnataka
BKG Sapphire, # 59, 3rd Floor, Railway Parallel Road, Kumara Park West Seshadripuram, Bengaluru-560020. Tel: 080-22231008
E-mail: eventsec.kits@gmail.com

DIPR/CP/3610/2025-26

Government of Karnataka - Karnataka Forest Department

Assistant Conservator of Forests, Channagiri Sub Division, Channagiri.

No: ACF/Channagiri/Tender/CR-01/25-26-3 Date: 27.10.2025

(Short-Tender Through e-Procurement Portal Call-2)

Tender (Call-2) has been invited for the work of "Advance work including raising of 10X16 seedlings in limits of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bhadravathi Division, Bhadravathi for the year 2025-26" by the concerned eligible contractors through the portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in up to 4:00 PM on 11-11-2025.

For tender terms and further information, this office may be contacted during office hours. Details about the tender can also be obtained through the official website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Estimated cost of work: Rs. 176.42500 Lakhs

Work: Advance work including raising of 10X16 seedlings in limits of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bhadravathi Division, Bhadravathi for the year 2025-26

Last date for submission of tender: 11-11-2025 at 16:00 Hrs

Technical Bid Opening Date: 12-11-2025 at 16:30 Hrs

Financial Bid Opening Date: 12-11-2025 at 17:00 Hrs

Sd/- Assistant Conservator of Forests, Channagiri Sub Division, Channagiri.

DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/08/11/1182

Karnataka Soaps & Detergents Limited

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Regd. Office: #27, Industrial Suburb, Bangalore-Pune Highway, Rajajinagar, Bangalore - 560055.
E-mail: ksdl.dgmmtls@gmail.com, Ph. No.: 080-22164810/22164879/23372367

An ISO-9001:2015 & 14001:2015 Company

e-Auction Notice No.: KSDL/2025-26/AUCTION20 Date: 04.11.2025

e-Auction Notification

KS&DL invites applications from scheduled public sector banks for investment by way of deposit of surplus funds. Documents for e-auction can be downloaded from Karnataka Public Procurement Portal through the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/**

Sl.No.	Amount Available (Rs.in Crores)	Period of Investment	Eligibility	Date of e-Auction Notification	Date and Time of Live Auction	Date of Investment
	Fund name: KS&DL Fixed Deposits					
1	Investment of Surplus/Maturity amount as fixed deposit of Rs.400 Crores - (Rs.100 crore (Rs.50 crores x 2 Packages) is Callable for the period of 1 year and Rs.300 crores (Rs.100 crores x 3 Packages) is Non-callable for the period of 1 year)	1 Year For Non-callable and 1 Year for Callable	Scheduled Public Sector banks	04.11.2025	Commences at 10.30 am & Concludes at 04.30 pm on 17.11.2025	19.11.2025 To 24.11.2025

Item wise Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of Rs.5000/- should be Paid only through e-portal. SCHEDULE OF VARIOUS EVENTS FOR e-AUCTION: (1) Pre-bid meeting: **07.11.2025 at 3.00 pm. (2)** Last Date to upload the Eligibility Criteria in Annexure- A & Declaration in Annexure-B in the e-portal: **13.11.2025 on or before 3.00 pm.**

Sd/- Asst. Gen. Manager (Materials)

Office of the Joint Director Social Welfare Dept Tumkur Dist, Tumkur

E-mail:tumkur.dswo@gmail.com Ph No: 0816-2278132

No:JD:SWD:TMK:E-PROCURMENT:CR:01/2025-26 Date: 30.10.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

FOR SUPPLY OF FOOD MATERIALS,VEGETABLES AND OTHER ITEMS TO PRE-METRIC, POST METRIC HOSTELS AND RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS COMING UNDER SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, TUMAKURU District FOR THE YEAR 2025-26 and 2026-27

Joint Director, Social Welfare, Department TUMAKURU Dist hereby invites Technical & Commercial Bids from officially registered, eligible suppliers, Non-governmental organizations who are registered under law, co-operative societies who are registered under Society Act to Supply food materials for all institutions spread over **TUMAKURU District** as described in the schedule of requirements.

1	Tender Reference No and date	**JD:SWD:TMK: E-PROCURMENT: CR:01/2025-26 DATE:29.10.2025**
2	Amount put to Tender	Rs. 50,99,00,000/-
3	Last date & Time for submission of Tender	Date: 15.11.2025
4	Date & Time of opening of Technical bid	As per E-Portal
5	Date & Time of opening of Financial Bid	As per E-Portal
6	EMD Amount	As per E-Portal
7	Venue of opening of tenders & address for communication	**Office Of Joint Director, Social Welfare Department, Near DC Office, Tumakuru**

Interested, eligible & Registered in e-procurement portal bidders can download the bid documents by visiting the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- (S. Krishnappa)
Joint Director
Social Welfare Dept, TUMAKURU Dist, TUMAKURU

DIPR/TUM/RO-154/25-26/Oysters

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED

(Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL, Dandavathi Reservoir Project Division, Shikaripura.

Short Term Tender Notification- 19/2025-26 Date: 23-10-2025 (Two document System & KPPP System only)

Short term percentage tender are invited as per K.P.P.P on behalf of Managing Director KNNL Bangalore from eligible contractors such as KPWD Class-I/CPWD Class-I and Above. The tenderers are required to submit tenders only through K.P.P. portal of Govt of Karnataka **(http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in).**

"Survey, Investigation, Design, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of Tank Filling Scheme System for filling up of 15tanks by lifting water from Dandavathi River in SorabaTaluk of Shivamogga District consisting of the following components: construction of Bridge cum Barrage, Intake structure, Jackwell cum pump house, Pumping machineries, 11/0.433KV sub-station, 11 KV Transmission line and 11 KV Terminal bay, Rising main, Pressure distribution network, surge analysis and protection system for filling up of 15 tanks including supply of spares parts and tools, O & M for five years after successful commissioning of the work under Yadagoppa Tank fillingscheme on turn-key basis". (INDENT No: 3317) Work Amount put to tender **Rs. 34.93 Crores** and EMD **Rs.0.30 Crores**

1) Date of downloading & submission of tender (through KPPP) will be on **03.11.2025 to 03.12.2025 up to 4.00 PM 2)** Date of Pre bid meeting:**17.11.2025 @11.00AM.**(O/o Chief Engineer, KNNL, UTP Zone Shimogga **3)** Opening of technical bid will be on **05.12.2025 @ 11.00 AM 4)** Financial bid will be opened after approval of technical bid.

For more details visit website from date-**03-11-2025** at **(http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in).**

Sd/-
Executive Engineer. KNNL, DRP Division, Shikaripura

DIPR/SMG/No-05-11/zenkar/2025-26

THE SPECIAL OFFICER AND COMPETENT AUTHORITY, (UNDER KPIDFE - IMA & OTHER SCAM)

3rd Floor, Podium Block, V.V Tower, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001

NOTICE/INVITATION FOR E-AUCTION FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Pursuant to attachment of Immovable properties by the Government under the provisions of the Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishments Act, 2004 (KPIDFE Act) and pursuant to the absolute attachment order by the Hon'ble Special Court, the Special Officer & Competent Authority is issuing notice for e-auction of the immovable property through e-auction on 'as is where is and whatever there is basis'.

The intending bidders will be required to furnish Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (as mentioned against each auction in the e-portal provided by the Service Provider/Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only).

Short description of the Immovable Property (SPLOCA/AUC(2)/CR/14/2025-26)

Properties are free of all encumbrances and are in the name of Competent Authority appointed by Government and confirmed by the Special Court under KPIDFE Act, 2004. (Khata stands in the name of Competent Authority and Auctioning Authority)

Sl. No.	DETAILS OF THE SCHEDULE PROPERTY (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 716/2019)	Minimum Bid Price (Rs)	EMD (Rs)	Bid Increase Value (Rs)
1.	No 01, PID No: 62-81-1,3rd Cross, Jayanagar, Chengaiah Compound, Krishnanagar, Ward No: 153(62), Hombegowda Nagara, Bengaluru. East to West 40 ft. North to South 24 ft Aggregating to 960 Sq.ft Google Map link: https://maps.app.goo.gl/LAW5AnYQz1Q9mGLB8 Latitude and Longitude: 12°55'44.7"N 77°35'53.4"E			
(a)	Ground Floor, Flat No.GF-01, UDS-102.58, SBA-402 sq.ft	**28,87,050/-**	**2,88,705/-**	**28,900/-**
(b)	First Floor, Flat No. FF-01, UDS-214.35, SBA-840	**60,42,000/-**	**6,04,200/-**	**61,000/-**
(c)	Second Floor, Flat No.SF-01, UDS-214.35, SBA-840 sq.ft	**60,99,950/-**	**6,09,995/-**	**61,000/-**
(d)	Third Floor, Flat No.TF-01, UDS-214.35, SBA-840 sq.ft	**60,09,700/-**	**6,00,970/-**	**60,100/-**
(e)	Fourth Floor, Flat No.FF-01, UDS-214.35, SBA-840 sq.ft	**60,09,700/-**	**6,00,970/-**	**60,100/-**

Date of Pre-bid meeting & time and Place	Date of Inspection & time	Last Date of Submission of Bids & EMD submission	Date & Time of E Auction
19th November 2025, 3 pm to 4 pm Place: O/o SPLOCA, 3rd Floor, Podium Block, Visveswariah Tower, Bengaluru-01	**02nd December 2025 11:00am to 05:00pm**	**04th December 2025 Before 5pm**	**05th December 2025 11 am to 1 pm**

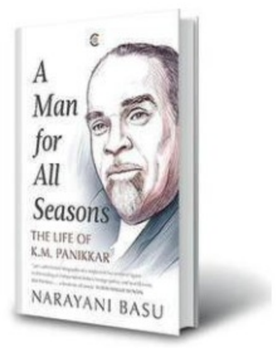
For Registration & Online Auction, you can login to: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in (Helpdesk No: 080-46010000, 080-68948777) The interested bidders who require auction related information can contact Assistant Commissioner, Office of the Special Officer & Competent Authority, 3rd Floor, Podium Block, Visveswariah Towers, Dr.Ambedkar Veedi, Bengaluru-560001, e-mail ID: splocaeauction@gmail.com or Contact Mob. No 6364403715.

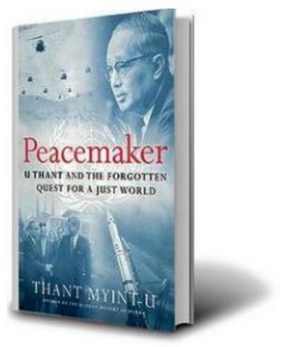
Date: 29-10-2025
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/-
Special Officer & Competent Authority
DIPR/CP/3598/Zen/2025-26 (Under KPIDFE –IMA & Other Scam) Bengaluru.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Globalist: K. M. Panikkar presenting his credentials to Mao Tse-tung, Chairman of People's Republic of China, as the Ambassador of India to China in 1950. HINDU PHOTO ARCHIVES





Forgotten men: the story of two peacemakers and their ideas of the world

Their paths didn't cross but U Thant, the UN's first Secretary General from the global south in 1961, and K.M. Panikkar, India's first ambassador to China in 1947, were both internationalists. Their roles in history have been largely airbrushed, and two biographies try to make amends

Suhasini Haidar

With elections for the next United Nations Secretary General (UNSG) due in 2026, expect the next few months in global politics to be dominated by discussions on what or whom the world body needs, to stave off predictions about the UN's imminent death. That threat comes not just from the conflicts and calamities the world faces, but from a slew of populist leaders worldwide taking their countries down an uber-nationalist path that diverges from the multilateral global system and the international rules-based order.

At such a time, it may be useful, even comforting to recall the words of U Thant, the UN's first Secretary General from the global south (Third World as it was called then). In his farewell speech Thant, a former Burmese school teacher who switched careers to become a diplomat, said he was proud of the fact that the flame of internationalism kept burning through his tenure (1961-1971). "Patriotism is good, but an additional allegiance to the entire world community is now essential. We have to get rid of the concept of 'my country, right or wrong'," Thant told an eclectic audience, that included Jackie Kennedy, John D. Rockefeller, Jacques Cousteau, John Lennon and Yoko Ono.

A new lens

The farewell story begins the vividly recounted biography of Thant, *Peacemaker: U Thant and the Forgotten Quest for a Just World* (Juggernaut), written by his grandson Thant Myint-U. Thant took over the uneasy mantle of UNSG suddenly after his predecessor Dag Hammarskjöld was killed in a plane crash in the Congo. Hammarskjöld was Swedish, and Trygve Lie before him was Norwegian, but Thant was undaunted by the realisation that "no one who looked like him had negotiated with big powers", and set out to purposefully bring an Afro-Asian lens to his brand of peace-making.

He cajoled those powers into committing funding for the UN and ensured the defeat of colonialist powers in Congo and Algiers. He often pitched himself into conflict, but his shuttle diplomacy between Washington and Moscow and mediation to end the Cuban missile crisis in 1962, as well as between Delhi and Islamabad during the 1965 war earned him respect. In a Gallup poll survey in 1967, Thant was named the sixth "most admired person" in the U.S., behind Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy, but ahead of Nixon.

Thant Myint-U, himself a former UN official, and now an acclaimed writer of a number of books on Myanmar, such as *The Hidden History of Burma: Race, Capitalism, and the Crisis of Democracy in the 21st Century* (Juggernaut) and *Where China Meets India: Burma and the New Crossroads of Asia* (Faber), brings to life not only his grandfather's work and the amazing times he lived in, but also the inner labyrinthine and often frustrating workings of the United Nations.

Like many UN Secretary-Generals, Thant was backed by the U.S. and its allies when he came to office, but fell out with those same Western forces when he questioned their actions. The book recounts his futile but unrelenting quest to end the U.S. war in Vietnam, including his run-in with U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk who asked him, "Who, do you think you are, a country?", as well as the acrimony he faced from U.S. newspapers for ordering UN Peacekeepers to stand down during the Six-Day War. The U.S. also opposed his push to recognise communist China rather than Taiwan for the UN seat, but eventually Beijing won its place in 1971, just before Thant demitted office. The biography, that is based mainly on archival material and Thant's correspondence, is not a personal one. It is a dispassionate account of the peacemaker's successes, and the setbacks he faced. Where he does voice his disappointment, is in the manner Thant's record has been "airbrushed" from history.

'Renaissance' men

The airbrushing of inconvenient legacies and internationalism are themes in another biography of an Indian diplomat, K.M. Panikkar (*A Man for All Seasons: The Life of K.M. Panikkar*/Westland Books by Narayani Basu). The first Ambassador to China, Panikkar never crossed paths with Thant but grappled with many of the same global issues.

Panikkar, like Thant, was not educated in global elite institutions, but was an internationalist in his ideas. In today's times he would be seen as a "Renaissance man", a thinker and writer, the founding Editor of *The Hindustan Times*, whose treatise on Indian maritime power is a textbook, a freedom fighter who also fought for the rights of princes in the soon-to-be independent India, earning the moniker "Sardar Panikkar".

Through a dizzying series of friendships and associations in Kerala, to Aligarh's Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental College (later Aligarh Muslim University), to Oxford and Paris, which are expertly stitched together by Basu, makes the 800-page tome a delightfully easy read. As India's diplomat at the United Nations, Panikkar worked with Vijayalakshmi Pandit on India's decision to oppose the creation of Israel at the UNGA in 1948, although he himself was personally close to Chaim Weizmann and other Zionist leaders. He later persevered, unsuccessfully at the time, in pushing for India's recognition of Israel, especially when he was India's ambassador to Egypt, concurrently accredited to Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. He also helped shape India's leadership during the Suez Canal crisis.

China stint

The most intense period of Panikkar's career, was no doubt, his stint in China (1948-1955). Nehru first decided to send him as Ambassador to Peking under the Kuomintang, as someone who shared his belief in India's civilisational heritage as well as to "consolidate its position as a postcolonial power", but then unconventionally returned him as Ambassador under the Communist government. The Panikkars were equally well regarded by Chiang Kai-Shek as by Mao and Chou Enlai, but the continued assignment was bitterly controversial, first over Panikkar's recommendations on recognising the communist government before other countries had, in 1949, and then his failure to predict China's occupation of Tibet in 1950. Mr. Panikkar came in for sharp criticism from Home Minister Sardar Patel, who wrote to Nehru his disappointment that India's Ambassador had been blindsided and unnecessarily obsequious to the communist government. The assignment ended long before the 1962 war, but Panikkar's reputation for having "gone native" in Beijing with a belief in an India-China compact for Asia, overshadowed his legacy. It is to Basu's credit that she chose a character with such a troubled reputation, and shone a kinder and more comprehensive light on his larger, brilliant body of work.

Like Thant, Panikkar's contributions demanded a re-look, even as present-day conflicts call for a debate on the global order that both men made their mark in first building decades ago.

Language in conversation

Vaishali R. Venkat

"Dear Moon, why are you crying?"

"Genie, my brother says his math homework is such a pain in the neck. It must be hurting him so badly! Shall we take him to the doctor?"

Genie chuckled, swirling like a whirlwind as he emerged from his lamp. "Ah, my dear Moon! Your brother doesn't need a doctor for his neck. It's you who need a doctor of English idioms!"

"Genie! How can you mercilessly laugh at someone's pain?" shouted Moon, pouting. "And what has English got to do with it? It's math homework, not English!"

"Ah, Moon, it's not your brother's neck that suffers! Pain in the neck is a way of saying that something or someone is terribly annoying. Your poor brother's homework is merely irritating him. It tests his patience, not his cervical vertebrae!"

"So my brother's neck is perfectly fine and not hurting?" Moon giggled.

"Exactly, Moon! And if you want to help him, you'll have to stick your neck out and dash across the busy, rickety street to borrow his friend's notebook so that your brother can copy it!"

"Genie... What do you mean by stick my neck out? Is it like in a cartoon or a ghost story, wherein characters or monsters might tie sticks around their necks to scare people?"

Genie puffed up his chest and wagged a finger. "No, Moon! No sticks, no ghosts, no monsters. To stick your neck out means to take a risk to do something brave. By crossing the busy street to fetch your brother's notebook, you are taking a risk. That is exactly what it means to stick your neck out!"

"Interesting, Genie... but I will not stick my neck out by going alone. You have to accompany me!"

Genie twirled in the air, wiggling his eyebrows. "Certainly, Moon, but where is your brother's friend? Ah, yes, I remember now, he is in the neck of the woods!"

"Genie, you've become a zombie with too many 'necks' around, but my brother's friend is not in the forest; he is just two streets away."

"It just means the 'neighbourhood' where he lives, Moon."

"Is that so, Genie? You know, whenever my brother and his friend start their homework, they always write at the same speed and finish at the same time. Both are really fast at writing!"

"Then they are neck and neck – exactly equal or have equal chance of winning!"

"Wow, Genie! Are there many more such 'neck' words in English?"

"Yes, Moon! But I'll tell you just two more – an albatross around one's neck; and be like a millstone around someone's neck. An albatross around one's neck means a big, heavy problem that troubles someone. For example, mounting debt is an albatross around Alice's neck. Likewise, to be like a millstone around someone's neck means to be a responsibility that is hard to bear and causes problems or worries. For example, the high EMI on Michael's new bungalow has become a millstone around his neck."

"Wow, Genie! I think I can spot neck words everywhere from now on!"

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Virat Kohli was born on November 5, 1988. Here is a quiz on the legendary cricketer

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1
Which team does Kohli represent in domestic cricket?

QUESTION 2
Sachin Tendulkar has scored the most number of international centuries (100). How many has Kohli scored?

QUESTION 3
Kohli's first half-century in domestic cricket happened at Feroze Shah Kotla, where he scored 70 runs against which team?

QUESTION 4
Kohli came into the limelight when he led the team to victory in the U-19 World Cup in Malaysia. This happened in which year?

QUESTION 5
Kohli's international career began when the 19-year-old had a "surprise call-up" to the ODI squad for a tour of which country?

QUESTION 6
In which country did Kohli score his maiden Test century?

Visual question: This has been considered as Kohli's signature stroke. Name it.
GETTY IMAGES

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Name the Scotland-born monarch that the Gunpowder Plot targeted in 1605. **Ans: James VI**
2. Identify the man born in Midland who devised the Gunpowder Plot. **Ans: Robert Catesby**
3. The conspirators intended to destroy this specific chamber of Parliament. **Ans: House of Lords**
4. Name the statute swiftly passed after the plot's discovery that ordered an annual church service and day of gratitude on November 5. **Ans: Thanksgiving Act 1605**
5. This graphic novel and its later film adaptation popularised a particular mask as a modern symbol of resistance. **Ans: *V for Vendetta***
Visual: Name this princess whom the conspirators wished to install on the throne. **Ans: Elizabeth, 'The Winter Queen'**
Early Birds: Piyali Tuli| Dodo Jayaditya| Mahima Sajani Jacob| Sachin Dandekar| Siddhartha Viswanathan

Word of the day

Obsequious:
attempting to win favour from influential people by flattery; attentive in an ingratiating or servile manner

Synonyms: bootlicking, fawning, sycophantic

Usage: *His obsequious assistant agreed with whatever he said.*

Pronunciation:
newsth.live/obsequiouspro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /əb'si:kwi.əs/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

65-year-old woman murdered at home

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Subramanyapura police cracked the murder case of an elderly woman who was smothered to death allegedly by a couple who were tenants at her house on Uttarahalli Main Road on Tuesday. The deceased has been identified as Shreelakshmi, 65, wife of Ashwath Narayan, who works in an agarbati factory at Cottonpet.

According to the police, the couple do not have children. On the day of the incident, Ashwath left home around 9.30 a.m. When he could not contact his wife, he called their tenant Phaniraj, who found Shreelakshmi on the floor. He informed Ashwath Narayan, who returned and discovered injuries on her neck, lips, and face, and her *mangalsutra* missing.

ILLUSTRATION BY SATHEESH VELLINEZHI

He alerted the Subramanyapura police.

A preliminary investigation revealed that Shreelakshmi had spoken to her elder sister Sampathi Lakshmi some time after noon. During the conversation, she informed her sister that someone had come to check the TV.

The police suspected that someone known to the family might be the culprits and zeroed in on Prasad Srishaila Makay, 26, and his wife Sakshi Hanumantha Hodlura, 23.

The probe revealed that the accused were tenants of the deceased for the last six months. Prasad had allegedly incurred a loan of around ₹4 lakh and the duo was under pressure to clear the loan. They decided to kill Shreelakahmi and rob valuables, said the police. As per the plan, the duo approached the victim on the pretext of checking her TV claiming that they wanted to buy a similar one.

While they were about to attack her, Shreelakahmi got a call from her elder sister and she went out to talk. The call lasted around half an hour and the couple waited until she returned.

While Sakshi smothered her with a pillow to stop her from screaming, Prasad strangled her to death, said the police.

The police questioned the couple before taking them into custody.

Man sets himself ablaze near Kengeri station

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 45-year-old man reportedly doused himself in a chemical and set himself on fire near Kengeri Railway Station on Wednesday afternoon, according to the police.

According to the police, the incident occurred around 1.45 p.m. The man was seen walking on the railway track towards Nayandahalli. He reportedly douself himself with a chemical, set himself on fire, and collapsed after some time.

A passenger at the station alerted the police control room. Onlookers rushed to rescue the man but were unable to save him as he had sustained severe burn injuries, the police said. The Kengeri Railway Police reached the spot and found no identification documents or mobile phone. The body has been shifted to Victoria Hospital for post-mortem.

(If you are in distress or having suicidal tendencies, please reach out to these 24/7 helplines: KIRAN at 1800-599-0019 or Arogya Sahayavani at 104 for help.)

Don't MISS to VISIT
Premium International Event for
Industrial Pumps, Valves & Systems
IPVS INDUSTRIAL PUMPS, VALVES & SYSTEMS
ICPE INDUSTRIAL CHEMICAL PROCESS EQUIPMENT
13 14 15 NOV 2025
Chennai Trade Centre, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
Event Highlights
✓ 100+ Exhibitors
✓ B2B Conference
✓ 5000+ Trade Visitors
✓ Latest Products & Innovations
SCAN TO REGISTER
TIMING: 10:00AM TO 6:00PM
FOR BUSINESS VISITORS ONLY
Children Below 16 Years Not Allowed
LUCKY DRAW
Winners announced after every conference session don't forget your business card!
91 9819332288 | 91 9769292959 | www.ipvs.in
Organised by Orbit Exhibitions Pvt. Ltd.
Associate Partner siema IPMA
Media Partner The Times of India
Travel Partner Tibro Orbit Expertise travels with you

NECC DAY

Late Dr. B. V. Rao
(1935-1996)

On his 90th Birth Anniversary,
we salute the Father of Indian Poultry Industry
Padmashree Dr. B. V. Rao, Who rose above and
beyond the call of duty and restructured
the Indian Poultry Industry as a modern,
Scientific Industry driven by technology.
On this occasion, we rededicate ourselves to
his dreams - making India
the No. 1 country
in the World of Poultry...

"My Egg, My Price, My Life"

NECC
NATIONAL EGG CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE
(Non-Government Public Charitable Trust)

HON'BLE SUPREME COURT MONITORED
HOUSING PROJECTS THROUGH LD. COURT RECEIVER
Executed by
NBCC (India) Limited
NBCC A Navratna CPSE
ASPIRE

Bulk Sale of inventory through e-Auction

Aspire Silicon City
Ph-IV, Sec-76, Noida, UP
- Inventory-3BHK & 4BHK spacious apartments with modern amenities.
- Near Spectrum Mall, Noida and nearest metro-station is Noida Sec-50 (Aqua line) & Sec.-76 metro and Anand Vihar ISBT & Railway station-25 min.

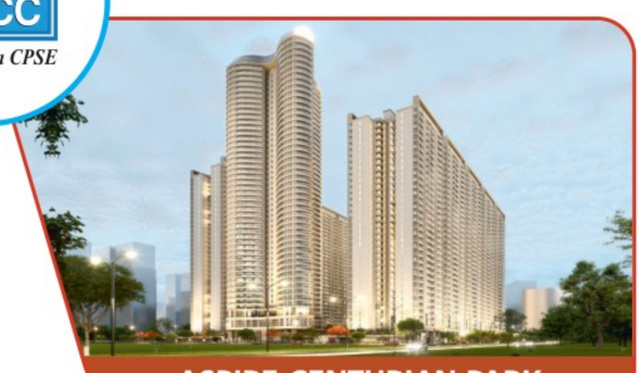
ASPIRE SILICON CITY

ASPIRE LEISURE PARK

Aspire Leisure Park
Techzone-IV, Greater Noida (W),UP
- Inventory-3BHK & 4BHK spacious apartments with modern amenities.
- Near D-mart and Anand Vihar ISBT & Railway station-30 min.

Aspire Leisure Valley
Techzone-IV, Greater Noida (W), UP
- Inventory-3BHK & 4BHK spacious apartments with modern amenities.
- Near D-mart and Anand Vihar ISBT & Railway station-35 min.

ASPIRE LEISURE VALLEY


ASPIRE CENTURIAN PARK

Aspire Centurian Park
Techzone-IV, Greater Noida (W), UP
- Inventory-3BHK & 4BHK spacious apartments with modern amenities.
- Near D-mart and Anand Vihar ISBT & Railway station-30 min.

Last date of submission of EMD-11.11.2025.
EMD Rs. 9.70 Cr. to Rs. 21.38 Cr.

8 packages Ranging from Rs. 485 Cr. to Rs. 1,069 Cr.

E-auction will be held on 12.11.2025

Please scan this QR for e-auction document

For more details, please visit our website: www.nbccindia.in I www.receiveramrapali.in
9772907414

‘Women bus ridership up 78% since Shakti launch’

The study focused on BMTC’s metro feeder services, analysing routes with the highest passenger density and among them Jalahalli Cross consistently ranked in top 30 metro feeder routes across Bengaluru throughout 2023 to 2025

Rishita Khanna
BENGALURU

Metro feeder routes connecting industrial and residential areas of north-west Bengaluru have recorded a sharp increase in women passengers after the launch of the Shakti scheme, which provides free bus rides to women in Karnataka, according to a study by Azim Premji University.

The study, ‘Gender, Welfare, and Mobility: Impact of Shakti Scheme on BMTC Transport transformation’, conducted by Tamoghna Halder and Arjun Jayadev of the Centre for the Study of the Indian Economy (CSIE), Azim Premji University, based on two years of BMTC trip-level data, shows that routes around Jalahalli and Peenya have seen one of the most significant shifts in ridership patterns with women now forming the majority of passengers on many metro-linked buses.

The researchers analysed 2.89 crore bus trips operated by BMTC between January 2023 and January 2025. FILE PHOTO

The researchers analysed 2.89 crore bus trips operated by BMTC between January 2023 and January 2025. The data allowed them to compare six months of bus operations before implementation with 18 months after.

The study examined metro feeder routes that connect neighbourhoods such as Jalahalli, Peenya, Nagasandra, Laggere, and Chikka Banavara to nearby metro stations and industrial clusters. These corridors include factories, garment units, and public-sector workplaces employing large number of women.

The study focused on BMTC’s metro feeder services, analysing routes with the highest passenger density. Among them, Jalahalli Cross consistently ranked in the top 30 metro feeder routes across Bengaluru throughout 2023 to 2025. A closer look at these routes showed that most feeder services around Jalahalli are short-distance loops linking interior residential areas to the highway, where key bus stops and metro stations are located. This pattern, researchers note, is significant given Jalahalli’s position in Bengaluru’s urban geography - the area, along with Peenya and Nagasandra, is a long-established industrial zone surrounded by dense residential layouts.

The region’s identity is defined by large employers like Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), along with clusters of garment units and several pre-university colleges. The Jalahalli, Peenya and Nagasandra metro stations sit along the national highway towards Tumakuru, while adjoining corridors connect to Rajajinagar and Hebbal, making it a key labour market hub that is also heavily residential, said the study.

On metro feeder routes covering Jalahalli and nearby areas such as Peenya 2nd Stage, Laggere, and Chikka Banavara, the average number of Shakti passengers in 2024 rose by about 78% from 2023. During the same period, the average number of fare-paying passengers declined by 29.5%.

Average revenue and passenger count for Jalahalli MF routes over time

Year	Ticket type	Average passenger count	Average revenue (in ₹)
2023	Shakti	55,626.68	5,46,719.60
2023	Non-Shakti	61,293.70	6,80,981.48
2024	Shakti	99,050.31	9,21,393.75
2024	Non-Shakti	43,195.78	4,62,676.72
2025	Shakti	7,368.81	79,592.19
2025	Non-Shakti	2,795.31	35,879.44

Metro expansion did not displace women riders

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The study also examined the K.R. Puram-Whitefield corridor after the Purple Line metro extension opened in March 2023. The data show that bus ridership on this stretch fell by 25.6% after the metro began operations, indicating that some passengers switched modes. However, the decline was driven mainly by non-Shakti or fare-paying passengers.

Women travelling under the Shakti scheme continued to use BMTC buses even after the metro’s introduction, with ridership remaining steady on routes connecting residential and peri-urban areas such as Chikka Tirupati, Kalkunte Agrahara, Dodda Dunnasandra Cross, Dinnur, and Arehalli.

The study notes that routes ending at K.R. Market, Majestic, and Tin Factory, which are major commercial and labour hubs, also saw continued high use among Shakti travellers.

The study points to this as a sign that women are prioritising affordability and flexible access over speed, since the bus network reaches neighbourhoods beyond metro coverage and remains free to use.

Handloom fair

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Charaka Mahila Multi-Purpose Industrial Cooperative Society, in association with the State Handloom and Textile Department, will host a three-day Handloom Exhibition-Fair and Craft Workshop from November 7 to 9 at Chitrakala Parishath.

The fair will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Two-day philately exhibition concludes

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The two-day district-level philately exhibition, Bengalurupex-25, organised by the Department of Posts, concluded at Chitrakala Parishat on Wednesday.

A special cover was released to commemorate the legacy of the Indian Institute of Science, alongside five picture postcards titled “Living Landmarks of Bengaluru,” “Science and Sports,” “Culture and Heritage of Bengaluru,” “Environment,” and “Women of Karnataka.”

A special postal cover marking the transfer of four Asian elephants from Bannerghatta Biological Park to Japan under an animal exchange programme was also released.

19-year-old found dead

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 19-year-old youth allegedly ended his life over an alleged relationship with a divorced woman at Mudachintalapalli village in Chintamani rural police station limits on Tuesday.

The deceased, identified as Nikhil Kumar, a school dropout, was found dead near a lake bed at Mudachintalapalli village.

Harassment alleged
Nikhil’s parents filed a complaint alleging that he might have taken the extreme step unable to bear harassment from the woman he was allegedly in a relationship with.

According to the complaint, Nikhil was in a relationship with a woman in the village who was divorced and had two children. When the parents got to know about it, they warned Nikhil to stay away. Still, the woman allegedly started forcing Nikhil to continue the relationship and blackmailed him with video and photographs.

Case registered
Based on the complaint, the police have registered an unnatural death case and are probing further to ascertain the reason behind the extreme step.

(If you are in distress or having suicidal tendencies, please reach out to these 24/7 helplines: KIRAN at 1800-599-0019 or Arogya Sahayavani at 104 for help.)

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to the general public that, my client **Sri. SANTOSH KUMAR,** aged about 44 years, S/o. Late. Kumar Handanahal Anantharamiah residing at Esteem Heritage Apartment, Amber 303, Rose Garden Road, Kalyani Magnum, J. P. Nagar Phase 5, BANGALORE 560078 has lost the registered original Sale Deed vide Document No.BAS-1-32376-2004-05 of Book I and stored in CD No.BASD149, dated:19-03-2005 in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk registered in favour of one Sri. Vijayanand. L, S/o. Sri. Loganathan. V executed by M/s. Rohini House Builders & Investment Co., in respect of the Flat No.G-3, Presently the Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Puttenahalli Ward No.187 assigned the Flat with Property No.1400/3038/G-3 and e-PID No.1626212318 on the Ground Floor, measuring 480 Sq. ft., of super built area, in the block named JASMINE of ESTEEM PARK constructed on the property bearing Survey No.164/2A and 164/2B of Bilekahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, measuring about 2 acres 3 guntas and in an measuring 90,387 Square feet and Property bearing Site No. 14, formed out of Survey No.4/4, of Sarakkikere Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring about 1920 Square feet. The entire property bearing No.761/164-2A, 164-2B & 49/432/14, CMC Katha bearing No.831, issued by the CMC, Bommanahalli of Bilekahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk and in this regards has lodged a police complaint to the Karnataka State Police (U/s 155 CrPC) Lost Article Report Serial No.1866621, Police Unit : Bangalore City, **Lost Article Report No. 1866621/2025, date : 25-10-2025.** Hence, if anybody finds the said Documents please inform/return to the below address within **7 days.**

Srinivasa S.A., Advocate
No.79/B, 7th Main, 50 feet Road,
BSK 1st Stage, Bangalore-560 050.
Mob: 9008003449
E-mail : srinilegals@gmail.com
Place : Bangalore Date : 06-11-2025

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SUNABEDA
e-mail - serwsbd2003@yahoo.com

Letter No. 4108 **1st Corrigendum** Date: 28.10.2025

In continuation to this office Bid Identification No. **CCERWCSBD-Online-15/2025-26** invited vide this office Notice No.3223 Dtd.10.09.2025, partial modification of NCB has been made as follows :-

Sl No.	Item	Time Schedule as per original NCB	Time Schedule as per Corrigendum notice
1	Availability of Tender online for bidding	25.09.2025 at 11.00 AM to 29.10.2025 up to 5.00 PM	**Extended up to 28.11.2025 5.00 PM**
2	Date and Time of seeking tender clarification if any	28.10.2025 up to 2.00 PM	**27.11.2025 up to 2.00 PM**
3	Date & Time of opening of tender (Technical Bid)	30.10.2025 at 11.00 AM	**29.11.2025 at 11.00 AM**
4	Date & Time of opening of tender (Price Bid)	Will be intimated later on to the successful bidders	**Will be intimated later on to the successful bidders**

All other terms and conditions will remain unaltered.

O-1302: **Chief Construction Engineer, RW Circle, Sunabeda.**

Government of Odisha
Higher Education Department
Lokseva Bhawan, Sachivalaya Marg, Bhubaneswar-751001
HE-SCH-PLAN-0059-2025/59941/H.E., Bhubaneswar, Dated: 03/11/2025

ADDENDUM-1

NOTICE INVITING RFP FOR ENGAGEMENT OF STATE PSU/ CENTRAL PSU/ DEPARTMENTAL UNDERTAKING AS PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT (PMC) FOR "CONSTRUCTION, REPAIR / RENOVATION ACROSS FIVE STATE PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES, ODISHA UNDER PM USHA

In continuation to the Request for Proposal (RFP) No. **PM-USHA:01/2025 Dt.09.10.2025,** the following addendum is hereby issued. All other terms and conditions of the RFP shall remain unaltered

Sl.No.	Reference	Description	Date / Place
1.	Pre-Bid Meeting	Schedule of Pre-Bid Meeting	07.11.2025, 11:00 AM Conference Hall, Higher Education Department, Lokaseva Bhavan, Ground Floor, Sachivalaya Marg, Bhubaneswar-751001.
2.	Bid Submission Dateline	Last Date & Time for Submission of Proposal	18.11.2025, 03:00 PM

Contact No.: +91-7894709964 / 0674-2954600

N-189 **Special Secretary to Govt., SPD, RUSA/PM-USHA**

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

REMEMBRANCE

Tribute to
Legend of Textile

Janab Haji S Madhar Sha

Heavenly Abode : **6-11-2009**

MADHAR SHA DEATH ANNIVERSARY 16

We pledge to maintain the rapport and standard of service set by our great father to our loyal customers who are with us for so many decades.

Family Members, Management & Staff

MADHARSHA GROUP
A Great Name in Textiles
In Consumer Service Since 1938

Madhar Sha Group

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Eighth Anniversary

Dr.K.A.PISHAROTI
Population Specialist, World Bank (Retd.)
You will always be remembered
Family & Friends

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES
To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
Bengaluru: 98455 29981, 080 - 22071826 **Hubballi:** 0836 - 2338600
Mangaluru: 0824 - 2417575, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Rate for Karnataka:
Minimum: Rs. 320/- for 2 lines. Extra line: Rs. 160/-
B/W Display: Rs. 95/- per sq.cm; Colour Display: Rs. 105/- per sq.cm
For Placing Advertisements Online log on to www.thehinduads.com
DONATE EYES - GIFT SIGHT

FORM NO. 14
[See Regulation 33(2)]
By Regd. A/D, Dasti failing which by Publication.

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - I/II
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BENGALURU (DRT-2)

Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Financial Services
Debt Recovery Tribunal-II Karnataka (Bengaluru)
4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001

DEMAND NOTICE
(NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.)

RC/354/2023 IN OA NO. 792/2020

Bank Of Baroda
Versus
Sri Thavanampalli Prasad And Others

To
(CH) Bank Of Baroda
Zonal Stressed Assets Recovery Branch, 2nd Floor, Vijaya Towers, 41/2, M G road, Trinity Circle, Bangalore Karnataka 560001
.....Certificate Holder
Vs
(CD 1) Sri Thavanampalli Prasad. S/o Thavanampalli Raghuram No 1599, 22nd Main, 40th Cross, Jayanagara, Bangalore, Karnataka-560041.
(CD 2) Smt. R.Renuka W/o.Thavanampalli Prasad No.1599, 22nd Main, 40 Cross, Jayanagar Bangalore, Karnataka -560041
(CD 3) Sri Jagadish K S/o.Krishnamurthy No.13, Saidhara Nilaya, Jayanthi Layout, Near KBC College. Kodiopalya, Kengeri Bangalore, Karnataka -560041
(CD 4) M/s VDB Whitefield Development (P) Ltd A Company Incorporated Under The Companies Act, 1956 Having Its Registered Office At No.301/302, 3rd Floor VDB Sentai, R.Narayanapura Main Road, Whitefield Bangalore Karnataka - 560066
(CD 5) Sri Koshy Varghese Director M/s.VDB Whitefield Development (P) Ltd Having Address At No.301/302, 3rd Floor, VDB Sentai. R.Narayanapura Main Road, Whitefield Bangalore Karnataka -560066
(CD 6) Dr Nagashree W/o.Mr.S.Vivekananda R/at:395, 5th Cross, 7th Main, R.P.C. Layout, Bangalore Karnataka -560008.
(CD 7) Smt. Bhagya Shree D/o.Mr.M.V.Munirathnappa R/at 2126, 16th b Main, 1st A Cross, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar Karnataka - 560008.
(CD 8) Smt.Rajashree M Rathnappa W/o.Mr.Mayur Bhutani, R/at No.2126, 16th B Main, 1st A Cross, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar Karnataka -560008
.....Certificate Debtors

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL BANGALORE (DRT 2) in OA/792/2020 an amount of **Rs 28784260 (Rupees Two Crore Eighty Seven Lakhs Eighty Four Thousands Two Hundred Sixty Only)** along with pendentellite and future interest @ 9.65% Compound Interest Yearly w.e.f. **01/01/2020** till realization and costs of **Rs 150005 (Rupees One Lakh Fifty Thousands Five Only)** has become due against you jointly and severally. Further, a penal interest @2%p.a. is also applicable/ payable.
2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act 1993 and Rules there under.
3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing.
4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned within 15 days from the date of paper publication of the demand notice at 10.30 am for further proceedings.
5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay
(a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate/execution proceedings.
(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: **08.11.2023.**
You are directed that the payment made if any by the Certificate Debtor(s) be credited to the consolidated account of all debts due in this case from the certificate Debtor(s) and the Recovery Officer kept posted with the Payment position regularly.
The consolidated account so maintained will be subject to the Verification of the Recovery officer . You are further directed to submit an up to date statement of the total claim in respect of the above matter and full details of property particulars where from the recovery of the debt is to be made.

Note : Attention is invited to Rule 16 to the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act, 1961 read with Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993(Amended from time to time) which is reproduced as under: "Rule 16(1) where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the debts recovery officer nor shall be any civil court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money.
2. Where an attachment has been made under this schedule any private transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any interest therein and any payment to the defaulter or any debt, divided or other monies contrary to such attachment, shall be void, as against all claims enforceable under the attachment.
3. You are also liable to disclose your assets both movable and immovable to this Tribunal along with the Income Tax Returns of last 5 years.

Sd/- Recovery Officer
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore (DRT-2)

Caste survey delay, internal dissent stall GBA ward delimitation

The entire exercise was designed to culminate in the publication of draft ward-wise electoral rolls by December first week

Rishita Khanna
BENGALURU

With the ward delimitation notification for the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) still pending, senior officials say the entire preparatory process for elections under the new civic authority has come to a standstill. The notification, which was expected on November 1, has not been released yet and officials now say it is unlikely to come this week either.

This has created a ripple effect across all subsequent stages, from staff training, boundary verification, to voter list computerisation, with officials pointing out that the entire timeline for activities may have to be pushed further now.

The delay stems mainly from internal disagreements within the government over aspects of the ward delimitation exercise, including boundary alignments and ward-wise population ratios, which have slowed down the final approval process, officials point out.

The delay stems mainly from internal disagreements within the government over aspects of the ward delimitation exercise, including boundary alignments and ward-wise population ratios, which have slowed down the final approval process, officials point out. K. MURALI KUMAR

Calendar of events

According to the calendar of events drawn up by the State Election Commission (SEC), the preparatory activities were scheduled to begin immediately after the notification. The first phase involved training Electoral Registration Officers (EROs), Assistant EROs, and Booth Level Officers (BLOs) between November 1 and 3. These sessions were meant to familiarise officials with the process of creating ward-wise voter lists and preparing the "From-To" matrix, which links each voter record to its respective polling part, officials said.

Following this, from November 4 to 8, officials were to conduct field visits to households located along the edges of ward boundaries, a senior official said, adding that this is one of the most crucial steps in delimitation-linked electoral work, as it ensures that residents of a single household or family are not split across two different wards - a common error that occurs when new boundaries are drawn.

Once these physical verifications were completed, the next stage, scheduled between November 9 and 11, involved compiling all verified data into structured matrices and preparing the corresponding header pages for digital entry. Thereafter, between November 12 and 21, the plan was to print the first checklist of ward-wise voter rolls, which would then undergo correction and verification to remove duplicate or missing entries.

The entire exercise was designed to culminate in the publication of draft ward-wise electoral rolls by December first week, followed by a period of claims and objections until late December, and the final publication of the rolls on January 29, 2026. These timelines were crucial for keeping the city's long-pending civic polls on track.

However, officials admit that the absence of the delimitation notification has frozen every step in the chain.

While training could theoretically be conducted in advance, no physical verification or ward-wise data reorganisation could begin without clearly defined boundaries, one of the corporation Commissioners told *The Hindu*, adding, "If we had started on November 1, the schedule was manageable. Now, every day of delay pushes the rest forward".

"The delay has caused a cascading impact on the entire voter list computerisation and printing schedule, pushing Bengaluru's first elections under the new GBA framework further down the line and leaving civic officials working against a shrinking timeline," the senior official further added.

The delay, however, has been defended by some government officials on technical grounds, with officials citing the late submission and compilation of caste survey data as the primary reason for seeking additional time.

The officials maintained that both delimitation and ward reservation depend on accurate caste-wise population figures, and that reconciling this data has taken longer than expected.

Meanwhile, GBA officials point out that the government could have gone ahead with the ward delimitation independently, using existing demographic data and previous electoral rolls, while updating reservation categories later once the caste survey figures were finalised. Instead, the State has chosen to link both processes -- delimitation and reservation to the delayed caste survey, stalling the entire timeline.

BSWML to give contract for end-to-end management of animal waste in city

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Ltd. (BSWML) is working towards separate collection and processing streams for all kinds of waste in Bengaluru. Even as tenders for end-to-end processing of Construction and Debris (C&D) waste have been finalised and are awaiting approval by the State Government, tenders have been called for end-to-end management of animal waste in Bengaluru.

BSWML is also looking at streamlining sanitary and biomedical waste streams.

The city is estimated to produce around 200 tonnes of animal waste, most of it from meat shops. The erstwhile civic body, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), had mandated that meat shops give their waste to a set of empanelled vendors. However, often, animal waste is dumped in vacant lands and lake beds. This eventually attracts packs of strays dogs.

To correct this situation, BSWML has called tenders, divided into five packages – one for each of the five corporations in the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) – for end-to-end management of animal waste.

The contractor who bags the contract needs to collect animal waste from all meat shops in their particular corporation every day, and clear animal carcasses as well.

The city is estimated to produce around 200 tonnes of animal waste, most of it from meat shops. FILE PHOTO

The contractor will have to weigh the animal waste from each generator and enter it in a mobile application being developed for the same. Animal waste generators will have to pay a user fee of ₹5 per kilo to BSWML.

Karee Gowda, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), BSWML, said that bidders must either have an animal waste processing plant or a tie-up with such a plant, including clearance from the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB). There are several such plants on the outskirts of Bengaluru.

Animal waste is usually recycled to animal food for fish, poultry, pets like dogs and cats, as it is rich in protein, he said.

Bids will close on November 10.

Mr. Gowda said that tenders for end-to-end C&D waste management were also finalised and have been placed before the State government for approval.

"We need to give the contractors land to build C&D waste processing plants. Of the three such plants to come up, land has been finalised for only one plant. We are actively working with the district administration to identify two more land parcels of at least 10 acres each," he said.

Under the new scheme, contractors will not only put up C&D waste processing plants of 1,000 TPD capacity, but also collect waste from doorsteps of generators in return for a tipping fee.

"In the earlier system, waste generators had to hand over the waste to the plant, which was often far away from the construction site. This did not work. We have been seeing C&D waste being indiscriminately dumped. Now, the contractors will pick up waste from the generators," an official explained.

RVCE's Lakshya rocket wins IN-SPACe's Model Rocketry Competition in U.P.

Hemanth C.S.
BENGALURU

Lakshya, a student rocket developed by R.V. College of Engineering (RVCE), has emerged as the winner in IN-SPACe's Model Rocketry Competition.

At the IN-SPACe Model Rocketry and CANSAT India Student Competition 2024-25 held at Tamkuhiraj, Kushinagar in Uttar Pradesh, recently, RVCE's Team Antariksh which developed the Lakshya rocket edged out 31 teams to emerge as the winner of the competition.

The competition involved designing, developing and launching a Model Rocket carrying a CAN-Size Satellite of one kg mass to an altitude of 1,000 metres above the launch site, along with safe ejection of the CANSAT and safe landing of the rocket.

Team Antariksh

A 10-member team comprising eight students and two faculty members from Team Antariksh, who participated in the competition, said that they were able to accomplish the feat without any glitch.

"The team was preparing for more than a year for this competition, and during the launch everything went as per plan as they were able to successfully launch the rocket with the CANSAT to an one km Apogee and safely recover both the rocket and the satellite intact," Prof. Ravindra S. Kulkarni, head, Department of Aerospace Engineering, told *The Hindu*.

Prof. Kulkarni said that the team also developed their own CANSAT for the launch.

"The entire launch sequence was like a typical rocket launch like one would witness in a spaceport like Sriharikota which was a great learning experience for the students," Prof. Kulkarni said.

The IN-SPACe Model Rocketry and CANSAT India Student Competition 2024-25 was held on the banks of the Narayani River at Tamkuhiraj.

The four-day national finale witnessed participation from 67 student teams – 31 teams in the Model Rocketry and 36 teams in the CANSAT category.

A total of 37 launches (13 in Model Rocketry and 24 in CANSAT) were successfully conducted over the course of the competition.

Timings
BENGALURU

THURSDAY, NOV. 06		
RISE	06:15	SET 17:52
RISE	18:32	SET 06:48
FRIDAY, NOV. 07		
RISE	06:15	SET 17:52
RISE	19:34	SET 07:56
SATURDAY, NOV. 08		
RISE	06:15	SET 17:51
RISE	20:39	SET 09:05

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	29	17
Bengaluru	28	21

Bengaluru Today
28°C The weather will be comfortable. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower with gusty winds to occur. Night will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
27°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2025
All rights reserved.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

Nine BMTC officials suspended for taking bribe to let drunk drivers on duty

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As per BMTC regulations, depot authorities are required to conduct mandatory alcohol checks before assigning drivers to duty

The Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) has suspended nine officials following allegations that they accepted bribes from drivers reporting to duty under the influence of alcohol.

Suspension orders have been issued pending inquiry, BMTC officials confirmed. According to a senior BMTC official, the case came to light at BMTC Depot-35, where a few drivers of electric buses allegedly reported to work intoxicated.

Internal probe on

"An internal investigation is going on into this allegation that some officials were taking bribes running into several thousand rupees from such drivers to allow them to be assigned duty, in violation of safety and operational rules," an official said.

As per BMTC regulations, depot authorities are required to conduct mandatory alcohol checks before assigning drivers to duty. Any driver found intoxicated must be immediately barred from operating a bus, according to the official.

Scrutiny ongoing

The incident comes amid ongoing scrutiny of BMTC's electric bus operations. Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy recently raised serious concerns over the "poor performance and lack of accountability" of private operators managing electric buses under the gross cost contract (GCC) model.

In a letter to the Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy, Mr. Reddy highlighted rising accidents, frequent breakdowns, driver strikes, and mounting passenger complaints linked to the electric bus fleet.

EDUCATION HUB
A Business Initiative

Capacity Building Workshop on IDE held at REVA University

The Department of School Education and Literacy, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), and the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC) organised a two-day Capacity Building Workshop on Innovation, Design and Entrepreneurship (IDE) for District Education Officers and DIET Members at REVA University, Bengaluru. The workshop aimed to strengthen the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem. The inaugural ceremony at the national level was graced by Prof. T. G. Sitharam, Chairman, AICTE, Shri Dheeraj Sahu, Additional Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, and Dr. Abhay Jere, VC, AICTE. At the State Level Inauguration hosted by REVA University, dignitaries including Smt. K. Vidya Kumari, IAS, State Project Director, Samagra Shikshana Karnataka; Ms. N.Parvathi, Junior Program Officer, PM SHRI Section; Shri Vikas Verma, MD, Media AICTE, and Shri Vidhikar Vishal, Regional Coordinator, Ministry of Education Innovation Cell, participated. The two-day workshop saw participation from over 60 District Education Officers and DIET Members from across Karnataka. The program empowered educators to integrate innovative and entrepreneurial thinking into school systems, transforming them into enablers of change and creativity. The event concluded with a renewed spirit of collaboration and a shared vision for cultivating innovation-driven education across districts, setting a strong foundation for the next phases of the IDE Bootcamp.

Pravrutti 2025 – M. S. Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences (RUAS), Bengaluru Hosts Its First National-Level Tech Fest

Recently M. S. Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences (RUAS), Bengaluru, proudly inaugurated Pravrutti 2025, the University's first-ever National Level Tech Fest, at its Technology Campus, Peenya. The three-day event celebrated technology, innovation, and creativity–marking a major ilestone in RUAS's efforts to promote interdisciplinary collaboration and technical excellence among students. The fest received an overwhelming response, attracting 1932 participants from over 75 institutions across five states, with 704 registrations for 26 technical and medical events.These events are designed to challenge and inspire students from undergraduate, postgraduate,and doctoral programs, showcasing innovation across diverse domains of science and technology. The Inaugural Ceremony was held at the RTC Ground, Peenya. The event was graced by Mr. Binod Hampapur, Hon. Chairman, Board of Governors, Rangadore Memorial Hospital, as the Guest of Honour, and Mr. Devaraj, Joint Director, Ministry of MSME, GOI, as the Chief Guest. The dignitaries present on stage included Shri S. Ashok Rao, Registrar of RUAS; Dr. Ranganath R. V., Provost, RUAS; Dr. Sarat Kumar Maharana, Dean, RTC; and Dr. Nayana N. Patil, Associate Dean, RTC. Pravrutti 2025 stands as a celebration of youthful energy, scientific curiosity, and teamwork. Through this initiative, RUAS reaffirms its commitment to nurturing future engineers, scientists, doctors, and entrepreneurs who will drive technological advancement and nation#building.

Presidency University hosts Legal Industry Interface Summit 2025

Presidency University School of Law organized the 'Presidency Legal Industry Interface Summit 2025' with the aim to strengthen the collaboration between academia and legal industry, providing a vibrant platform for the students and the legal as well as corporate professionals to engage in thought-provoking discussions and knowledge exchange. Shri. Udaya Holla, Former Advocate General of Karnataka and Senior Advocate Holla & Holla was the Chief Guest for this prestigious event. Shri. Holla highlighted that law is a noble and service-oriented profession. He remarked on the qualities every lawyer must possess – fairness, transparency, honesty, a strong value system and a constant desire to acquire knowledge. Mr.Narayanan Ramaswamy-National Leader, Education and Skill Development ,KPMG in India was the keynote speaker for the event who spoke about the demand of the industry. The day long summit had four expert panel discussions featuring some of the most distinguished professionals from reputed organizations. Dr.Nissar Ahmed-Chancellor ,Presidency University along with the leadership team felicitated Shri. Udaya Holla alongwith Mr. Ramaswamy and Dr. Saroj Sharma-Dean School of Law, thanked the esteemed guests and the panelists for making the summit a huge success.

CMR University Inaugurates Postgraduate Programmes for Academic Year 2025-26

CMR University inaugurated its Postgraduate Programmes MBA, M.Sc IT, and MCA at the OMBR Campus. The ceremony witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 300 students. The event was graced by the presence of Mr. Cheruku Srikanth, FinTech Entrepreneur and Founder & CEO of Digital CFO, Hyderabad, India, as the Chief Guest. University leaders including Dr. H.B. Raghavendra, VC, Dr. Aswani Kumar Unnam Registrar (Evaluation), along with Deans and Directors of various schools, were also present. In his presidential address, Dr. H.B. Raghavendra expressed gratitude to students and parents for their confidence in CMR University. Addressing the gathering, Mr. Cheruku Srikanth shared insights on how Artificial Intelligence and advanced technologies like ChatGPT can be effectively applied in education. The ceremony concluded with an interactive session that inspired students to explore technology-driven learning pathways and make the most of their postgraduate journey at CMR University.

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
ISSN 0971 - 751X

Wildlife Board for diverting forest land in Sharavathi Sanctuary

The Standing Committee of the Board, chaired by Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre, decided to forwared to the National Board for Wildlife the proposal for diversion of 0.976 hectares of forest land

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Standing Committee of the State Wildlife Board has recommended forwarding the proposal to divert forest land from the Sharavathi Lion-tailed Macaque Wildlife Sanctuary, to the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) for approval.

The Standing Committee of the State Wildlife Board, chaired by Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre, which met on Wednesday, decided to recommend the proposal for diversion of 0.976 hectares of forest land.

A proposal to release forest areas of the Sharavathi Lion-tailed Macaque Wildlife Sanctuary for approval by the Standing Committee of the NBWL was submitted to the State government through the Parivesh portal last September.

An aerial view of Sharavathi Valley Wildlife Sanctuary in Sagar taluk of Shivamogga district.

Approved

The committee also approved various road construction and widening proposals linked to the Sharavathi Lion-tailed Macaque Sanctuary, the Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary Eco-Sensitive Zone, and the Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuary with the condition that project plans ensure that there is no harm to wildlife.

The Minister directed that while granting approval to any project in forest and wildlife sanctuary areas, proposals should mandatorily include measures to reduce risks and ensure no harm to wildlife.

On the proposal to establish a leopard conservation reserve in Chittapur, Mr. Khandre directed officials to conduct a field inspection and submit a detailed report.

Mr. Khandre also directed officials to fix a radio collar on the elephant captured near Kerekatte in Chikkamagaluru district and release it back into the forest. The elephant had reportedly caused the death of two persons in Kerekatte range of Kudremukh Wildlife Division in Sringeri taluk on October 31.

The Minister instructed the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests to invite former Indian cricket team captain Anil Kumble, who is the ambassador of the Karnataka Forest Department, and for wildlife conservation to attend future meetings of the Department.

CID probe

Mr. Khandre ordered a CID investigation following reports that a group of individuals filmed and photographed three new-born tiger cubs using vehicle headlights in the Bedaguli forest area of the Punajanur range, within the Biligiri Ranganatha Tiger Reserve in Chamarajanagar district.

In a directive to the Additional Chief Secretary of the Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, the Minister noted that some of the individuals involved were allegedly linked to an organisation against whom a forest-crime case was filed back in 2015.

Siddaramaiah's camp mulls AHINDA meet as show of strength

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amid speculation over the replacement of the Chief Minister after completion of the mid-term of the Congress government in Karnataka, Ministers and legislators loyal to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah have planned to hold a convention of AHINDA (Minorities, Backward Classes and Dalits) in an attempt to express their solidarity and put pressure on the high command to declare Mr. Siddaramaiah as the Chief Minister for a full five-year term.

Sources in the Congress party said AHINDA organisations, apparently backed by Yathindra Siddaramaiah, son of the Chief Minister, launched the campaign by posting letters to Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, in Mysuru, urging AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge to declare Mr. Siddaramaiah as Chief Minister for the full term, thereby putting an end to the prevailing confusion over the change of leadership.

Dates not finalised

However, sources maintained that the date and the venue have not been finalised for holding the convention, and a decision would be taken after the Bihar election results.

A leader close to the Chief Minister maintained that Mr. Siddaramaiah was not showing keen interest in the AHINDA convention at this moment and reportedly asked the Ministers and legislators loyal to him to desist from such events. But some Ministers appeared to be keen on holding the convention to show the support of AHINDA groups to the Chief Minister and thereby send a message to the high command about possible political risks involved by replacing Mr. Siddaramaiah from the post.

Earlier too, Ministers and legislators loyal to Mr. Siddamaiah held AHINDA conventions to project him as the "undisputed" backward class leader.

Meanwhile, the high command has reportedly told the State Congress leaders not to hold any conventions in support of the party leader. A few days ago, it conveyed a message to Dalit leaders of the State to refrain from holding the convention.

The convention was planned by Dalit Ministers to seek the Chief Minister's post for the Dalit leader in the event of the replacement of Mr. Siddaramaiah from the post.

Rahul going abroad?

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi is likely to undertake a foreign tour after the Bihar elections on November 14 and is unlikely to meet Mr. Siddaramaiah during his visit to New Delhi on November 15. Mr. Gandhi is expected to visit Finland for about 10 days. A few days ago, Mr. Siddaramaiah said that he would go to Delhi on November 15 to seek the high command's nod for the proposed Cabinet reshuffle.The CM is expected to meet only AICC general secretary K.C. Venugopal and other leaders.

Skilling treated as extracurricular activity: NITI Aayog CEO

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Skilling is still treated as an extracurricular activity in India and yet to be treated as part of mainstream education, said B.V.R Subrahmanyam, CEO, NITI Aayog here on Wednesday.

"Skilling is yet to be part of our country's education system, unfortunately. This is at the root of the problem India is currently facing. Since our curriculum lacks general employability skill training, a majority of our population remains hugely unskilled, doing very low paying jobs or even staying unemployed," he lamented, while delivering the keynote address at Bengaluru Skill Summit, being organised by the Government of Karnataka.

Addressing a gathering of law/policy makers, educators, industry leaders, and start-ups, he said, India as a whole has to think differently and focus on skilling its people of all ages: young, old, students, women and farmers and others.

The country's 50-crore farmers have to be also trained otherwise the magic of agriculture won't happen again.

"We are actually putting people in silos and treating skilling as something separate. Actually, skilling has to be an integral part of the education system and skilling has to be thrown open to people of all ages – 20, 30, 40, 50 or 60 years," he suggested.

Particpants at the Bengaluru Skill Summit 2025 on Wednesday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

India was in a sweet spot, the country was at an important inflection point, with a positive growth trajectory, even geopolitics was also favouring India and the country has to invest in its demographic dividend, Mr. Subrahmanyam insisted adding, "If we don't, our demographic advantage can be a curse for us. Only a skilled, employable, well-earning workforce having productive-livelihood will power India to become a $30 trillion economy by 2047, with each individual expected to contribute $18,000 (per capita income) to the economy."

According to Mr. Subrahmanyam, the country required integrated academic, skill and vocational training schools and institutes on a large scale. Many have done wrong education and taken up courses and wasted their time, and now they are 35 or 40 years old and think their life is over.

He suggested a system that would map skill sets, bring people and job roles on a common platform and establish interoperability (communication) between different educational platforms which would eventually help create diverse career roadmaps, define skill sets, identify newer job roles and create huge employment opportunities for a skilled workforce.

On the impact of artificial intelligence on employment oportunities, Mr. Subrahmanyam added that AI would remove roles and not jobs.

Need to rejig academic curriculum: Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka has to restructure its academic curriculum to ensure that skill development starts in the classroom itself, said Sharanprakash Patil, Minister for Medical Education and Skill Development, here on Wednesday.

Speaking at a panel discussion with his ministerial colleagues on the second day of Bengaluru Skill Summit, Dr. Patil said it was critical for the government, along with industry partners, to identify the skills and soft abilities needed for employability.

"We must ensure our graduates are industry-ready. We are ready to provide training facilities, bear skilling costs if required to ensure every trained youth finds meaningful employment. Together, we can make Karnataka the skill capital of India," the Minister stated.

Beyond Bengaluru

Speaking at the panel, Higher Education Minister M.C. Sudhakar said India's education and skill ecosystem was expanding rapidly from tier I cities to tier II and tier III regions, where new malls, logistics networks, and e-commerce hubs were reshaping job opportunities. He emphasised the government's focus on establishing Centers of Excellence within institutions to ensure students gain practical skills during their course duration.

"As a State, we believe that while jobs may not be promised to everyone, opportunities to become employable must reach every individual," stated Priyank Kharge, Minister for Skill Development, Entrepreneurship & Livelihood and Panchayat Raj and Rural Development. Indicating that global career opportunities are available for skilled professionals, he said, the world today faced a talent shortage of nearly 85 million people, a gap that skilled youth from Karnataka were ready to bridge.

The state's new Skill Policy envisages a dedicated investment of ₹5,000 crore towards skilling and making 3 million youths employable by 2032.

Mega parent-teacher meeting on Nov. 14

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has ordered conducting a mega Parent Teacher Meeting (PTM) in all government primary schools, high schools and Pre-University Colleges on November 14 on the occasion of Children's Day celebration.

This was announced by Minister for School Education and Literacy Madhu Bangarappa during the Kannada Rajyotsava celebrations recently, and an official circular was issued on Wednesday asking the school authorities to make preparations for the PTM.

If the student strength is less than 50, then all the parents should be invited, if the enrolment is above 50, priority should be given to higher classes considering the availability of space at the schools to conduct meetings, reads the circular.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND GEOLOGY
2nd Floor, My Home Sarovar Plaza, Secretariat Road, Saifabad, Hyderabad-500063
Website: www.mines.telangana.gov.in Email: dmgtg-mines@telangana.gov.in
Telephone No: 040-23221766/9866633414

Ref No.3382196/IT-DMG/2025 Dated:04.11.2025

Request for Proposal (RFP)

The Director of Mines and Geology, Telangana State invites Request for Proposal (RFP) from interested bidders for Empanelment of Agencies for Supply, Installation, Integration and Maintenance of CCTV Cameras in Mining Leases, Quarry Leases, and Mineral Dealer Areas in Telangana State.

Interested may visit Mines & Geology Department Website **(https://mines.telangana.gov.in/MinesAndGeology/Views/Index.aspx)** to download the RFP Document (free of cost).

The RFP along with Application shall be filed on or before 18.11.2025 by 5.00 P.M in the Office of the Director of Mines and Geology in the address mentioned herein. For further details contact the telephone number mentioned herein.

Sd/-
Director of Mines & Geology(FAC)

DIPR R.O.No.800-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt:05.11.2025 Government of Telangana

CM to hold meetings with farmers, sugar factory managements

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs H.K. Patil said on Wednesday that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah would chair meetings with farmers and factory managements in the next two days to resolve the deadlock over sugarcane prices.

Addressing protesting farmers in Gurlapur in Belagavi district, he said that the Chief Minister would meet farmers in Bengaluru on Thursday and meet factory representatives on Friday. He said that he sympathised with their cause and that the State government was ready to resolve the issue.

Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs H.K. Patil addressing protesting sugarcane growers, at Gurlapur in Belagavi district on Wednesday. P.K. BADIGER

"The Chief Minister has asked me to hold talks with you and learn about your problems. He has also asked me to issue instructions to officials to ensure that farmers do not suffer any inconvenience," Mr. Patil said.

Sri Shashikant Guruji of Inchigeri Shakha Math said that the farmers would withdraw the protest only if the State government announced a higher price on Thursday. The seer also demanded that another meeting of sugar factory managements. "If we abandon the protest and go to Bengaluru, it will send a wrong message to our fellow farmers," the seer said.

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Through KPP portal only)

BWSSB, invites tenders in Two Stage tender system from eligible registered contractors for the below mentioned works:

Name of Work	Amount Put to Tender / EMD
Office of the Chief Engineer (South), 7th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K. G. Road, Bangalore-09.	
IFT NO.BWSSB/EIC/CE(S)/ACE(S)-I/DCE(M)-I/TA(S)/4039/2025-26	Dt: 30.10.2025
Work of Replacement of old 100mm dia CI water supply lines with DI line from 18th Cross to 22nd Cross 3rd Sector HSR Layout and surrounding area coming under HSR Layout S/stn. of AEE S12 Sub Division.	**Rs.199.60 Lakhs** / **Rs.2.99 Lakhs**
Last date and time for submission of tender document is: **21-11-2025 upto 15:00 hours.** Tender will be opened on **24-11-2025 after 15:00 hours.**	
IFT NO.BWSSB/EIC/CE(S)/ACE(S)-II/DCE(M)-I/TA(S)/4041/2025-26	Dt: 30.10.2025
Work of Replacement of old 400mm dia CI line by 450mm dia MS water line and installation of new 600mm dia NRV near Mountjoy pump house coming under Mountjoy S/stn. of AEESW-3 Sub Division.	**Rs.182.58 Lakhs** / **Rs.2.73 Lakhs**
Last date and time for submission of tender document is: **18-11-2025 upto 15:00 hours.** Tender will be opened on **19-11-2025 after 17:00 hours.**	
Sd/- Chief Engineer (South).	

The details regarding the tender and participation in the kpp portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the signed office during working hours. DIPR/CP/AAPL/RO 3607/25-26

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No. CGM(Tech)/DGM(Proc&APCC)/EE-P/AEE-2/2025-26/3971-978 Date: 05.11.2025

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites Bids on electronic mode against the following Tender Enquiry No. as detailed below:

Tender Enquiry Number and Description
Tender Enquiry No: **KPTCL/2025-26/ IND0236**
Design, manufacture, testing, supply and installation/ demonstration of **01 set of Insulated Aerial Work Platform mounted on a vehicle and Insulated Scaffolding System** along with Sky Ladder vehicle, Tools Transportation vehicle and other Hotline tools (Total: 138 items) for live maintenance of Transmission Lines & Substations upto 400kV voltage class required at Hotline Sub-division, KPTCL, Shivamogga conforming to KPTCL technical specification along with **Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) for a period of five (05) years.**

The bids will be received through e-procurement portal only. The details regarding the subject enquiry in the e-procurement portal can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **11.11.2025 @ 15:00hrs** and the last date & time for receipt of bids in e-portal is **12.12.2025 @ 15:00 hrs.**

Any extensions of due date for bid submission will be intimated in the e-procurement portal. Any details required in this regard can also be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours. All Corrigendum /Addendums shall be noticed by the bidders before the last date of submission of the bids.

Sd/-, Chief General Manager (Tech.),
Corporate Office, KPTCL, 2nd Floor, Kaveri Bhavan, Bengaluru – 560 009.

Can Devaswom staff be tried under law against graft, asks HC

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The HC sought a scientific probe into misappropriation of gold from Sabarimala temple.

The Kerala High Court on Wednesday directed the special investigation team (SIT) probing the Sabarimala gold theft case to conduct a scientific investigation into how gold could have been misappropriated during the repair and replating of sacred artefacts such as the *Dwarapalaka* (guardian deity) idols, *peedhom* (pedestals), and doors of the temple.

The court directed the SIT to examine whether provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 are applicable in the case, considering the alleged involvement of Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) officials.

A Division Bench of Justice Raja Vijayaraghavan V. and Justice K.V. Jayakumar observed that the entire chain of events pointed to a systematic misappropriation of temple assets under the guise of renovation and restoration.

Senior SIT personnel appeared before the court on Wednesday and the proceedings were held in camera. After perusing an SIT report, the court said the investigation is proceeding on the right track.

The matter has been posted for hearing on December 3.

Kerala to move court against SIR; Opposition backs govt.

At all-party meeting, participants voice concern over poll panel decision to take 2002 electoral rolls as the base document for the present exercise; CM calls it 'unscientific and ill-intentioned'

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

A booth-level officer helping a voter fill the enumeration form in Thiruvananthapuram on Wednesday. NIRMAL HARINDRAN

An all-party meeting chaired by Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan here on Wednesday decided to legally challenge the Election Commission's decision to conduct the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in the State.

Representatives of all political parties except the BJP supported the decision, Mr. Vijayan's office said after the online meeting.

Follows TN move

The decision comes just days after a meeting of Tamil Nadu parties, chaired by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Sunday, deciding to approach the Supreme Court against the SIR.

The house-to-house enumeration phase kicked off in Kerala on Tuesday in line with a national-level schedule for SIR 2.0.

Mr. Vijayan told Wednesday's meeting that the government would seek legal advice on the EC's decision to go ahead with the SIR just when the elections to the local bodies were going to take place in the State. The EC decision to take the 2002 SIR voter roll as the base document for the current exercise and not the list updated for the 2024 Lok Sabha election was unscientific and ill-intentioned, the Chief Minister told the meeting.

Echoing similar concerns, Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan said that the Opposition Congress-led United Democratic Front was ready to implead in the case if the government moved court.

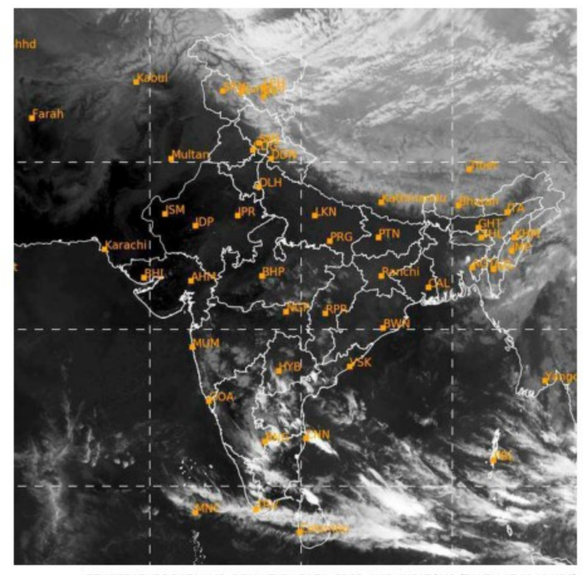
On same page

Communist Party of India (Marxist) State secretary M.V. Govindan described the EC decision as anti-Constitution and anti-democratic. Representatives of various political parties expressed concern over the decision to use the 2002 SIR list as the base document.

In September, the Kerala Assembly unanimously passed a resolution against the SIR and the EC decision to proceed with it when the local body elections were imminent.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



Forecast for Thursday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal. Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning likely at isolated places over Rayalaseema, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	5	28.0	23.3	Kozhikode	—	33.4	25.5
Ahmedabad	—	31.8	22.3	Kurnool	12	33.4	23.8
Aizawl	12.4	26.6	18.8	Lucknow	—	30.4	18.4
Allahabad	—	33.2	18.8	Madurai	—	37.4	25.1
Bengaluru	—	28.4	21.0	Mangaluru	—	30.1	23.0
Bhopal	—	30.3	18.8	Mumbai	—	30.5	22.4
Bhubaneswar	—	31.8	17.0	Mysuru	—	30.0	17.2
Chandigarh	0.6	29.7	16.4	New Delhi	—	30.4	18.4
Chennai	—	33.8	25.4	Patna	—	31.3	20.9
Coimbatore	0.4	33.2	22.2	Port Blair	0.2	31.0	25.0
Dehradun	—	28.1	15.3	Puducherry	—	33.1	26.7
Gangtok	—	23.5	13.3	Pune	—	30.0	21.2
Goa	—	31.2	23.4	Raipur	—	32.1	19.3
Guwahati	—	31.0	22.9	Ranchi	—	27.1	14.9
Hubballi	—	29.0	18.0	Shillong	0.1	22.5	15.8
Hyderabad	2	30.6	23.4	Shimla	—	21.4	13.2
Imphal	—	25.3	19.6	Srinagar	8	13.8	5.6
Jaipur	—	30.6	20.1	Thiruvananthapuram	—	31.7	25.0
Kochi	—	30.8	25.0	Tiruchi	—	33.1	25.0
Kohima	4	24.5	17.8	Vijayawada	—	31.9	25.4
Kolkata	—	31.5	22.4	Visakhapatnam	1	32.4	26.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.25	..50	.29	94	...123	
Bengaluru	..—	..25	121	60	89	
Chennai	...5	..59	..—	74	...106	
Delhi	.38	..82	102	...236	...199	
Hyderabad	...8	..28	.39	...135	80	
Kolkata	...7	..16	.43	...315	...230	
Lucknow	.10	..60	.43	...196	...329	
Mumbai	...5	..21	.30	45	...116	
Pune	..—	..28	.50	83	94	
Visakhapatnam	.18	..57	.16	97	...114	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Sonipat, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 313 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 12

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

4 MLAs summoned in Telangana defection case

M. Rajeev
HYDERABAD

The Legislature Secretariat of Telangana has summoned four more MLAs of the Bharat Rashtra Samiti (BRS) who are facing charges of defection to the ruling Congress.

A tribunal, headed by Speaker G. Prasad Kumar and constituted under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution dealing with the Anti-Defection Law, will conduct hearings on the charges made by the BRS leadership against Tellam Venkat Rao, Arekapudi Gandhi, Pocharam Srinivas Reddy, and M. Sanjay Kumar from Thursday.

The hearings will be held over two days. The Speaker's office has also issued notice to the petitioners, BRS MLAs G. Jagdish Reddy, Kalvakuntla Sanjay, and K.P. Vivekananda, to appear for the hearings with their advocates. The Speaker will cross-examine the four MLAs again on November 12 and 13.

The process follows earlier hearings on petitions pertaining to BRS MLAs T. Prakash Goud, Kale Yadaiah, Gudem Mahipal Reddy, and Bandla Krishnamohan Reddy last month.

The legislators were guided by legal experts in answering the queries posed by the tribunal.

Centre's move violates bifurcation norms, says Telangana government

M. Rajeev
HYDERABAD

The Telangana government has strongly opposed the Union Home Ministry's proposal to include institutions not mentioned in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, in Schedule X for apportionment between the two Telugu States – Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

The move, the government said, is in explicit violation of the provisions laid down under the Act. The Centre should not proceed with the proposed inclusion of any of these institutions under Schedule X of the Act, it said.

The State government has addressed a letter to the Union Home Ministry in response to its communication seeking the views of the Telangana government about the division of assets and liabilities of the institutions not mentioned anywhere in the Act.

It criticises addition of more institutions in Schedule X for division of assets and liabilities between two Telugu States

In a detailed response, Telangana said the Andhra Pradesh government furnished the names of 32 institutions not mentioned in the Act, and the current reduced list contained 12 departments with 19 institutions. Of these, some were found liquidated and some are defunct.

The government cited Section 75(2) of the Act, which lays down that "the Centre may, at any time, within one year from the appointed day (June 2, 2014), by notification in the official gazette, specify the tenth schedule referred to in sub section (1) any other institution existing on the appointed day in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and, on issue of such notification, such Schedule shall be deemed to be amended by the inclusion of the said institutions therein".

"Thus, it is clear that the Central government is empowered to exercise powers under the above proviso within one year from the appointed day only," the State said.

The Telangana government said that originally 107 institutions were listed under Schedule X. Subsequently, in May 2015, the Centre, in the exercise of powers under sub-section 75(2), included 35 more institutions in Schedule X, taking the total to 142 – within one year from the appointed day.

"The present proposal is contemplated more than 10 years after the appointed day which would be violative of the APR Act," the State said.

Bhuvaneswari wins awards

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

Nara Bhuvaneswari, Managing Trustee of NTR Trust and Managing Director of Heritage Foods, received two awards from the Institute of Directors, United Kingdom, at a grand ceremony held at the Mayfair Hall in London on Tuesday.

Ms. Bhuvaneswari, who is wife of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, won the 'Distinguished Fellowship Award' and the Golden Peacock Award for Excellence in Corporate Governance.

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public are hereby informed that, our clients have proposed to purchase the Schedule property from its present owners **SRI.KRISHNA G.R. AND SRI.KOVURU RAVI** Person/s, Financial Institution/s, Bank objecting for the proposed purchase or having any right, share, title and interest in the Schedule property may lodge their objections/claims with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within **7 days** from this day of publication and any objection/ claims received thereafter will not be binding on our clients and our clients will proceed to purchase the below mentioned Schedule property as if there are no claims/objections.

-:SCHEDULE PROPERTY:-

All that piece and parcel of an immovable property bearing **Sy.No.147/1A, measuring 20 Guntas out of 30 Guntas,** situated at **Madiwala Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk and Bengaluru Urban District** and bounded on : **East by : Remaining Property in same Sy.No., West by : Remaining Property in same Sy.No, North by : Property bearing Sy.No.146, South by : Road.**

V.S.Rai & Associates, LAW FIRM
No. 23, "Venkatadri" 6th Main,
5th Cross, S.R.Nagar, Bangalore-560027.
Ph : **98441 55041, 9620579310**

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Bangalore Division of South Western Railway, for and on behalf of the President of India, invited bidders for development Gati Shakti Multi- Modal Cargo Terminals (GCT) either entirely or partially on Railway land at Hanakere Station in Bengaluru Division on IREPS.

Last date for Submission of bids :
Upto 15.00 hrs on 28.11.2025
For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Bengaluru
PUB/615/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the **UTS Moblie App** from **Google Play Store** for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | @SWRAILWAYHQ | @sw_railways

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that my client **Mr. Sudhakar K Raju** is negotiating the purchase of the following immovable property:

SCHEDULE

All that part and parcel of the land measuring **0 Acre-30 Guntas** of land in Sy No. **92/6** (Old Sy No. 92/2) situated at Sulthanpet Village, Nandi Hobli, Chikkaballapur Taluk, Chikkaballapur District and bounded on the following:

East by: Land in Sy No. 92/1
West by: Land in Sy No. 92/2
North by: Halla and Kolar-Sompura Road
South by: Land in Sy No. 89/2 and 85/3B4

My client is in the process of completing the purchase and registration of the aforesaid property from its present owner **Smt. Nemikallu Triveni Naidu.**

Any person or entity having any claim, right, title, interest, charge, lien, or encumbrance over the above-mentioned property is hereby required to make their claims known to the undersigned in writing with all relevant documents, within 15 (Fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice.

If no such claims are received within the stipulated time, it shall be presumed that there are no claims, objections, or encumbrances over the said property, and the proposed transaction will be completed accordingly.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 05.11.2025
Sd/-
Prajwal Vishwanath
Advocate,
B-105, Brigade Majestic,
1st Floor, 1st Main Road, Gandhinagar,
Bangalore- 560009, Ph. 9632966378
Email: prajwal@bluefinnlegal.com

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE No. 03/Bridges/ UBL 2025-26 Date: 29.10.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders (IREPS) for the following works.

Name of work	Approx. Value
Hubli Division: Special	₹ 1,28,96,409/-

repairs for Girder bridges under Senior Section Engineer/Br/Belagavi Jurisdiction for 2 years.

Last Date for Submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 27.11.2025
For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Senior Divisional Engineer/Co-Ordination/ Hubballi
PUB/600/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | @SWRAILWAYHQ | @sw_railways

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients are intending to purchase the schedule property, measuring East to West, 40 feet, North to South 20 feet, total **800 sq.ft** situated at **ward No.40 Dodda BidaraKallu** from its Owner **Shri. Mahesh Rao.S/o. Nanjunda Rao,** resident of Sivaganga layout who has purchased the same from its Owner Nateswarachari and others through their GPA holder, **Smt. Shakunthala Bai.**

If anybody, institution, organisation, body, or any other person having any objection or claims with regard to the sale of the property, they are here by notified to Contact the undersigned within **15 days** from the date of this publication, feeling which my clients will go through the process of registration of the sale Deed.

SCHEDULE

All the piece and parcel of the property bearing **No. 37,** with old PID No. 2305383585, measuring east west 40 feet north to South 20 feet, total measuring 800.sq.ft consisting of 600 Sq. Building situated at **Ward No.40 Dodda BidaraKallu** coming under the BBMP Bounded on the :

East by : Road, West by : Site No.40, North by: Remaining Site, South by : Site No.38.

V. Keshavarao Mohite, Advocate
No. 35, Behind Bhupathi Tennis Village, Virupakshapura Bengaluru-97. Ph 9844469408

Karnataka Bank Ltd.
Your Family Bank. Across India.

Asset Recovery Management Branch,
1st Floor, FKCCI Building, Kempegowda Road, Bengaluru-560009.
Phone: 080-22955928(Gen)/22955929(AGM)
E-Mail: blr.arm@ktkbank.com
Website: https://karnatakabank.com
CIN: L85110KA1924PLC001128

E-AUCTION

NOTICE OF SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES ON 26.11.2025

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) / Rule 9 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Constructive Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer (details mentioned below), will be sold on **"As is where is"and "As is what is" basis on 26.11.2025** at the below mentioned timings for recovery of dues with further interest and cost thereon due to the **Karnataka Bank Ltd.**

The details are as under: Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposits details are as under & the Earnest Money Deposit shall be deposited on or before **25.11.2025 at 4.00 pm** through online payment to the Account No. details of which are given below or by way of DD favouring **Karnataka Bank Ltd.**

Sl. No.	Name of the Borrowers/Mortgagors/Guarantors/ Co-Obligants and Loan Account No.	Balance O/S Rs. Future Interest From + Costs	Possession Date Possession Type	Description of the Property/ies	Reserve Price (Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs.	Auction Time	Incremental Value of the Bid	Branch Name & Account Details for Remitting EMD/ IFSC Code
1	**(1) Mrs. Jonna Amrutham** W/o Mr. Bhaskar Naidu J **(2) Mrs. Chandra Gopi Krishna** W/o Mr. Gopi Krishna **(3) Mrs. Mohita** W/o Mr. Suresha B **(4) Mrs. Jhansi B** W/o Mr. Ashok K **(5) Mr. Ashok K** S/o Mr. Nagarathnam All are addressed at: No.362/1, 8th Cross, RMV 2nd Stage, 2nd Block, AECS Layout, Sanjaynagar, Bengaluru-560004 **Loan A/c Nos.:** **(1) PSOD 0557000600021601** **(2) PSTL 0557001800043901** **(3) PSTL 0557001800047901**	**Total Rs.4,06,51,502.33 [Rupees Four Crore Six Lakh Fifty One Thousand Five Hundred Two and Paise Thirty Three Only]** **[(1) Rs.3,14,56,090.29 01.11.2025 + (2) Rs. 5,19,418.58 11.10.2025 + (3) Rs. 86,75,993.46 11.10.2025]**	**12.02.2025 & Constructive**	All that part and parcel of residential property measuring **2325 sq ft** together with building constructed thereon bearing **Site No.3/362, Khatha No.178-A, New Municipal No.44/13, PID No.100-183-10, BBMP Ward No.100,** situated at 8th Cross, Geddalahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru-560094 belonging to **Mrs. Jonna Amrutham.** Boundaries of property as per Document & Actual: East by: Remaining portion of House List No.3/362, West by: 40 feet Road, North by: N S Mani's Property / Vacant site, South by: Property No.363.	**Rs. 4,81,00,000/- (Rupees Four Crore and Eighty One Lakh Only)**	**Rs. 48,10,000/- (Rupees Forty Eight Lakh Ten Thousand Only)**	**10.15 AM to 10.30 AM**	**Rs. 1,00,000/-**	**Karnataka Bank Ltd Branch : Bengaluru – Malleshwaram A/c No: 0553500200004101 IFSC:KARB0000055**
2	**(1) Mr. Ashwatha Narayana P** S/o Mr. Puttanna **(2) Mrs. Kalpana S** W/o Mr. Ashwatha Narayana P, **Both are addressed at:** No 1/31,7th Cross,8th Main,Shivanagara, New Florence School, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010 **Both are also at:** No.18 in Survey No31/2, III Cross,1st Main, Mydahalli Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bengaluru -560015. **Loan A/c No.:** **TL A/c No. 1237001600023501**	**Rs.36,58,282.26 [Rupees Thirty Six Lakh Fifty Eight Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Two and Paise Twenty Six Only] as on 14.10.2025 Future Interest From + Costs.**	**10.12.2024 & Constructive**	All that part and parcel of the residential property bearing Site No.18 in Sy No.31/2, measuring 1218 sq ft with residential building constructed thereon situated at III Cross, 1st Main, Mydahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bengaluru-560015 belonging to **Mr. Ashwatha Narayana P. Boundaries of property: East by:** Property No.15, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Site No.19, **South by:** Property No.17. **Location of the property:13.068521'N, 77.151967'E**	**Rs. 66,60,000/- (Rupees Sixty Six Lakhs Sixty Thousand Only)**	**Rs. 6,66,000/- (Rupees Six Lakhs Sixty Six Thousand Only)**	**10.00 AM to 10.15 AM**	**Rs. 50,000/-**	**Karnataka Bank Ltd Branch : Bengaluru – Vidyaranyapura A/c No: 1233500200004101 IFSC:KARB0000123**
3	**(1) Mr. Krishnappa H T** S/o Mr. Thirumalaiah, **(2) Mrs. Jyothi N** W/o Mr. Krishnappa H T, **Both are addressed at :** No.529, 2nd Cross, 2nd Main, BHEL layout, Pattanagere, Near P.V.Shetty Godown, Bengaluru-560098, **All are also addressed at:** Darshith Restaurant and Lodge, No.143, Khatha No.177, Kodavathi Road, Huliyurdurga, Kunigal Taluk, Tumkur District. **Loan A/c No.:** **TL A/c No.7827001600004901**	**Rs.66,50,684.63 [Rupees Sixty Six Lakh Fifty Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Four And Paisa Sixty Three Only] along with future interest from 22.10.2025 plus costs**	**17.04.2025 & Constructive**	All that part and parcel of commercial property measuring **4890.75 sq ft** bearing **Khatha No.313/561/562, E- Khata No.152500402200721321,** situated at Kelagade Beedi Main Road, Huliyurdurga Village, and Hobli, Kunigal Taluk, Tumakuru District together with building constructed thereon belonging to **Mr. H T Krishnappa. Boundaries of property as per Document: East by:** Halekacheri Road, **West by:** Kelagade Beedi Road, **North by:** Galli and House of Syedjan & Muneerjan Sadik, **South by:** Property of Riyazuddin. **Location of the property: 12.826043,77.034412**	**Rs. 1,26,25,000/- (Rupees One Crore Twenty Six Lakh And Twenty Five Thousand Only).**	**Rs. 12,62,500/- (Rupees Twelve lakh Sixty Two Thousand Five Hundred Only)**	**10.30 AM to 10.45 AM**	**Rs. 1,00,000/-**	**Karnataka Bank Ltd Branch: Bengaluru – Thagachaguppa Village, K Gollahalli A/c No: 7823500200004101 IFSC:KARB0000782**

(The borrower's/mortgagor's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset).

(This Notice shall also serve as Notice under Sub Rule (6) of Rule 8/Sub Rule (1) of Rule 9 of Security Interest Enforcement Rules-2002 to the Borrower/Guarantors).

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to link in Karnataka Bank's Website i.e. https://karnatakabank.com under the head "Auction Notice".

The E-auction will be conducted through portal www.auctionbazaar.com on **26.11.2025** at above mentioned time with unlimited extension of 05 minutes. The intending bidder is required to register their name at **www.auctionbazaar.com** and get the user Id and password free of cost and get training i.e. online training on E-auction (tentatively on **25.11.2025**) from **M/s ARCA EMART PVT LTD** (Known by their **website: www.auctionbazaar.com**) Auction Bazaar, 7-1-28/1/A/1, Park Avenue 1, Ameerpet, Begumpet, Hyderabad, Secunderabad, Telangana, India – 500016, **Contact No. :** 8885035382, E-mail : **contact@auctionbazaar.com and disposal.karnataka@auctionbazaar.com.**

Date : 05.11.2025
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Assistant General Manager & Authorised Officer, Karnataka Bank Ltd.

Death on the move

Road accidents are not resulting in an overhaul of infrastructure and licensing

The highway accident on November 3 that claimed 19 lives at Chevella near Hyderabad was far too routine to change India's disgraceful record in fatal road accidents. The driver of a gravel-laden truck apparently swerved to avoid a pothole and rammed into a bus. There were no dividers, no streetlights and no signages on that stretch of National Highway 163. India's roads are a major public hazard. Pedestrians, bus riders and two-wheeler motorists constitute the majority of the over 400 people who die on India's roads on average, the equivalent to a full transcontinental flight going down. Flight disasters invite scrutiny, multi-agency probes and quick remedial actions but road accident deaths that mostly involve poorer folk trigger perfunctory probes and glacial change in rules, if any. Government documents identify human error as the most common cause but deeper reasons – vehicular and infrastructural – are unaddressed.

In India, the road test for getting a driving licence examines whether the person is able to handle a vehicle of certain specification, largely a skill test, rather than one of his knowledge and execution of safe driving practices. No safety training is mandated. Most accidents are collisions from the back – whereas exemplar driving tests in other countries filter out tailgating tendencies and arbitrary lane changing. The system of certifying and monitoring drivers and vehicles is broken and corrupt. For nearly all Indians, navigating RTOs is unpleasant. The SaveLIFE Foundation advocates License Seva Kendras – on the lines of Passport Seva Kendras – so that they are transparent, digitised, and ensure good driver skills and safety awareness. One in five accidents are head-on collisions, which have happened even on four-lane highways, indicating wrong-side driving and the state of road dividers. In general, national highways need to adhere to Indian Roads Congress guidelines but States have made no mandates as required by the Motor Vehicles Act. There are potholes, dangerous curves, drainage systems, bridge parapets and concrete objects, but no crash barriers or energy absorbers. Collision-risk warning devices are relatively inexpensive and can be mandated on commercial vehicles. Better pedestrian infrastructure alone can prevent many fatalities. In Hyderabad, a community health-care centre was available for immediate treatment and a government hospital was not far away. But that is often not the case elsewhere. In States such as Bihar, fatality rates are double because of inadequate trauma care infrastructure. An overhaul of the road transport system is an urgent requirement in India.

Winter of discontent

U.S. election results are a referendum on the Trump administration's policies

Democrats have swept the first major election in the U.S. during the second term of President Donald Trump, indicating a degree of frustration with the ongoing federal government shutdown but also signalling a broader barometric downturn in the approval ratings of his administration's policies. In a historic first, Zohran Mamdani, a Uganda-born, Muslim Democratic Socialist New York State Representative, scored a decisive victory over former Governor Andrew Cuomo and Republican candidate Curtis Sliwa, garnering over one million votes – 50.4% of the total polled – to secure the post of Mayor of New York. Similarly, Democrats Abigail Spanberger and Mikie Sherrill won gubernatorial races in Virginia and New Jersey, respectively, making them the first female Governor and Democratic female Governor of their States. Additionally, Indian American Democrat Ghazala Hashmi is projected to become Virginia's next Lieutenant Governor and is on track to become the first Muslim woman elected statewide. In California, voters approved Democratic Governor Gavin Newsom's campaign to redraw the State's congressional map in a manner that would help the party secure five additional seats in the U.S. House of Representatives in the 2026 midterm elections. Mr. Trump has blamed the Republican setback on the fact that he was not on the ballots and on the government shutdown, which he has repeatedly faulted Democrats for. However, what is now officially the longest federal government closure raises questions about his ability to bring lawmakers together to strike a deal in Congress for the betterment of the American people.

While each of these results offers a snapshot of voter preferences within limited geographies, it also serves as a broader referendum on the Trump administration's policies, especially regarding questions of the economy, jobs and cost of living. Mr. Mamdani ran on a platform focused on issues close to the heart of the ordinary American – affordable housing, broader offerings for childcare, greater support for immigrant communities, and free public transport. Mr. Trump responded to his campaign by vowing to slash federal funding if Mr. Mamdani prevailed as Mayor. After his victory, Mr. Mamdani hit out at the involvement of Mr. Trump's family in the federal government. Indeed, Mr. Trump's approval rating has dropped to its second-term low, with voters suggesting that affordability was their main concern. The question is whether he will now double down on the MAGA agenda, for example by accelerating immigration raids and deportations despite resistance by States, or by pressing on with the global tariff war despite costs faced by U.S. importers. Whichever path he chooses, the Democrats have put the White House on notice, and 2026 will be a further indicator of voter mood in this context.

In Brazil, COP30 and the moment of truth

Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva

is the President of Brazil

Today, in the Brazilian Amazon, the Belém Summit opens ahead of the 30th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30). World leaders convened here in the days leading up to the COP so that we can all commit to acting with the urgency that the climate crisis demands.

If we fail to move beyond speeches into real action, our societies will lose faith not only in the COPs but also in multilateralism and international politics more broadly. That is why I have summoned leaders to the Amazon: to make this the COP of Truth; the moment we demonstrate the seriousness of our shared commitment to the planet.

Humanity has shown its ability to overcome great challenges when it acts together and guided by science. We protected the ozone layer. The global response to the COVID-19 pandemic proved that the world can act decisively when there is courage and political will.

Back to Brazil

Brazil hosted the Earth Summit in 1992. We approved the Conventions on Climate Change, Biological Diversity and Combating Desertification, and adopted principles that defined a new paradigm for preserving our planet and our humanity. Over the past 33 years, these gatherings have produced important agreements and targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions – from ending deforestation by 2030 to tripling renewable energy use.

More than three decades later, the world has returned to Brazil to confront climate change. It is no coincidence that COP30 takes place in the heart of the Amazon rainforest. This is an opportunity for politicians, diplomats, scientists, activists and journalists to witness the reality of the Amazon.

We want the world to see the true state of the forests, the planet's largest river basin, and the millions of people who live in the region. COPs cannot be mere showcases of good ideas or annual gatherings for negotiators. They must be moments of contact with reality and of effective action to tackle climate change.

> The setting of the Belém Summit — in the Amazon — will help lead the way in effective action to tackle climate change

To confront this crisis together, we need resources. And we must recognise that the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities remains the non-negotiable foundation of any climate pact.

That is why the Global South demands greater access to resources – not out of charity, but justice. Rich countries have benefited the most from the carbon-based economy. They must now rise to their responsibilities, not only by making commitments but also by honouring their debts.

Brazil is doing its part. In just two years, we have already halved deforestation in the Amazon, showing that concrete climate action is possible.

A move to preserve forests, other measures

In Belém, we will launch an innovative initiative to preserve forests: the Tropical Forests Forever Facility (TFFF). It is innovative because it operates as an investment fund, not a donation mechanism.

The TFFF will reward those who keep their forests standing and those who invest in the fund; a genuine win-win approach to tackling climate change. Leading by example, Brazil has announced a $1 billion investment in the TFFF, and we expect equally ambitious announcements from other countries.

We also set an example by becoming the second country to present a new Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). Brazil has committed to reducing its emissions by 59% to 67%, covering all greenhouse gases and all sectors of the economy.

In this spirit, we call on all countries to present equally ambitious NDCs and to implement them effectively.

The energy transition is fundamental to meeting Brazil's NDC. Our energy matrix is among the cleanest in the world, with 88% of our electricity coming from renewable sources. We lead in biofuels and are advancing in wind, solar and green hydrogen energy.

Redirecting revenues from oil production to finance a just, orderly and equitable energy transition will be essential. Over time, oil companies worldwide, including Brazil's Petrobras, will transform into energy companies, because a growth model based on fossil fuels cannot last.

People must be at the centre of political decisions about climate and the energy transition. We must recognise that the most vulnerable sectors of our society are the most affected by the impacts of climate change, which is why just transition and adaptation plans must aim to combat inequality.

We cannot forget that two billion people lack access to clean technologies and fuels for cooking, and 673 million still live with hunger. In response, we will launch in Belém, a 'Declaration on Hunger, Poverty and Climate'. Our commitment to fight global warming must be directly linked to the fight against hunger.

The need for a climate change council

It is also fundamental that we advance the reform of global governance. Today, multilateralism suffers from the paralysis of the United Nations Security Council. Created to preserve peace, it has failed to prevent wars. It is our duty, therefore, to fight for the reform of this institution.

At COP30, we will advocate the creation of a UN Climate Change Council linked to the General Assembly. It would be a new governance structure with the force and the legitimacy to ensure that countries deliver on their promises, and an effective step toward reversing the current paralysis of the multilateral system.

At every Climate Conference, we hear many promises but see too few real commitments. The era of declarations of good intentions has ended: the time for action plans has arrived. That is why, today, we begin the COP of Truth.

Clean up the voter list urgently, but not the Bihar way

Praveen Chakravarty

is Chairman, All India Professionals' Congress and Data Analytics of the Congress party

According to Ministry of Road Transport data, there are roughly 40 crore (400 million) vehicles registered in India across all States and Union Territories. No two vehicles across the country have the exact same registration number. Similarly, there are 20 crore (200 million) people in India with a driver's licence. No two people have the exact same driver's licence number. Each number is unique. The same person may have many driving licences (albeit illegal), but each driving licence number is unique.

It is obvious and elementary that every vehicle registration or driving licence number or any ID number is unique, and that two records cannot have the same number. Yet, this simple and basic principle is violated in the voter lists of the Election Commission of India (ECI). Voters in Bengal have the exact same voter identification number as some in Uttar Pradesh; this pattern is one that repeats itself across many States. Nearly two decades earlier, in 2008, the then Chief Election Commissioner boasted that the ECI had given electoral photo identity cards (EPIC) to every voter. Apparently, he did not know that the most elementary rule of any identity system is for the ID number to be unique and not have the same number for many.

Much cause for worry

It gets worse. For example, if you are a registered voter, I can change your registered mobile number to my number using Form-8 without you getting to know it. Then, using my mobile number and OTP for your voter id, I can submit an application to delete you as a voter. It is as simple as that. This is how there was an attempt to delete 6,000 genuine voters in the Aland constituency in Karnataka – which the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, exposed on September 18, 2025.

Five days after Mr. Gandhi's exposé, the ECI, after vehemently denying his charges, quietly and surreptitiously changed this process to now use only the Aadhaar-linked mobile number. While this is a welcome and positive change, such a significant move to link Aadhaar to voter id was done without any press release or discussion. This is a clear and implicit admission by the ECI of the egregious faults in its voter list management system that has been exploited to manipulate and impact electoral outcomes.

It has also been clearly established, as Mr. Gandhi showed yet again, on November 5, 2025, that India's voter lists are riddled with duplicate, fake and ghost voters. A lack of unique voter id numbers, and allowing anyone to change voter details are such elementary system errors which even an engineer in his teens with a basic knowledge of databases will not commit. It is evident that the ECI is staggeringly incompetent in its database management abilities. This is cause for worry as the voter list is India's most important database. It is abundantly clear that India's voter lists need to be purified and managed better by more competent people and processes.

> It is welcome that the Election Commission of India acknowledges the serious issues with India's voter lists, but its method of cure must not be worse than the disease

A Bihar-style SIR is bad

In this context, the idea of a Special Intensive Revision (SIR) to purify voter lists is welcome. There is no doubt that India's voter lists need to be cleaned up. But can this be entrusted with the same authorities under the very process that muddied it in the first place? The ECI, as seen in press conferences held by the Chief Election Commissioner, has proved that it is blatantly biased and partisan. So, the ECI lacks both the trust and the capabilities to come up with its own processes and rules to conduct an SIR to clean up voter lists. The only alternative is for the ECI to undertake this cleaning up exercise as a joint constructive exercise with the involvement of all political parties in every step, and not just issue diktats and orders.

First, the Bihar-style SIR is not the way to conduct this exercise in other States. The Bihar SIR was malicious in intent, and was rushed with the sole aim of the deletion of genuine voters under the false reason of removing illegal migrants from the list.

Second, the Aadhaar is fundamental and integral to having a clean voter list. There is deliberate conflation and confusion being created by the ECI on the use of Aadhaar, claiming that it is not proof of citizenship and so it cannot be used, which is true. Every Aadhaar holder need not be a voter. But every voter must be an Aadhaar holder. Aadhaar linked de-duplication of a voter list is the most efficient and cheapest method to remove duplicates, fakes and ghosts and ensure that every voter has only one voter id card that is unique and non-transferable. By repeatedly rejecting the Aadhaar and even the need for de-duplication, the ECI is showing itself to be either technically ignorant or willingly malevolent or both.

Third, genuine voters must be enrolled by visiting every household and registering voters using proper documents, and not by asking voters to download forms online or collecting them from a centre and registering themselves on their own. The ECI must go to voters instead of asking voters to go to them, as they did in Bihar. When a State such as Telangana can do a complete census of 3.5 crore people by visiting every household in two months, the ECI must and can do this also. This is the only way to ensure that no genuine voter is left behind. This also implies that the ECI cannot rush this exercise in a month like it did in Bihar. Clean voter lists are too important and fundamental for an SIR to be done in a hurried and shabby way.

Listen to the Opposition

Political parties are integral and a vital cog in the wheel of the SIR process. The ECI is known to be unresponsive to complaints and suggestions from Opposition parties. A striking example was in Maharashtra where, in October 2024, a month before voting, all Opposition parties wrote a joint letter to the ECI with clear evidence of the mass addition of fake voters. But this was completely ignored. We know how 75 lakh new and mysterious votes were cast in the Maharashtra State election. Shockingly, the BJP alliance got exactly 75 lakh more votes in the Assembly election vis-à-vis the Lok Sabha election to win a majority. Had the ECI taken the Opposition's complaint more seriously, Maharashtra might have had a different Chief Minister.

The all-party meetings that the ECI convenes are a farce where the ECI puts on a show of listening to parties but then issues its own rules and procedures. The SIR process must be one where political parties are consulted at all levels and at every step – from the State leadership in the State capital, to every district, to every booth. These meetings must be video recorded, and suggestions, complaints and ideas given by political parties must be clearly documented.

The most important and strongest demand by the Opposition parties is for the ECI to publish the final, consolidated and machine-readable digital copy of the photo voter rolls after the SIR process. This is an absolutely critical step for the ECI to do for it to win back the trust of the Opposition parties and the public.

It is not that the ECI woke up one day and realised the need for cleaning up voter lists through SIR exercises. After the Congress party exposed clear anomalies in the Maharashtra 2024 State election and, subsequently, in two constituencies in Karnataka, and in Haryana, it became crystal clear that India's voter lists are being manipulated to impact elections. It is welcome that the ECI acknowledges the serious issues with the nation's voter lists and wants to rectify. But the cure must not be worse than the disease. The Chief Election Commissioner must understand that a Bihar-style SIR is a bad idea.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SIR second phase

There can be no second opinion that the SIR exercise being carried out by the Election Commission of India (ECI) is not only against the Constitution but is also being done with an ulterior motive — the exercise in Bihar is an example. The higher judiciary should not remain a mute spectator to any attempt made to disenfranchise voters.

Tharcius S. Fernando,
Chennai

The allegations of potential disenfranchisement being put forth by many State governments cannot be dismissed. It is imperative that the ECI ensures that the process is conducted in a very fair manner to maintain the integrity of our electoral democracy.

Salini Reghuraj,
Mambaram, Kannur, Kerala

The ECI must learn from its mistakes and make sure that it is accountable to voters. Meticulous planning and taking every voter into confidence have to be its priority. The ECI has to make sure that it can defend its actions.

Chiraag G.V.,
Shivamogga, Karnataka

We cannot stick to an electoral list that was prepared a long time ago. In fact, the SIR will only streamline the electoral process and is the first step in the right direction. The political parties opposed to the idea should provide constructive ideas to make elections more transparent.

V. Lakshmanan,
Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu

Boardroom battles

The ancient dictum of Chanakya found modern embodiment in Jamsetji Tata's belief that industry must exist not merely for profit but for the progress of the people it touches. The Tata philosophy was built on trusteeship capitalism — the idea that enterprise is a means to uplift society, not just enrich shareholders. A chunk of Tata equity rests with philanthropic trusts. In an era obsessed with profits, the Tatas face the challenge to temper capitalism with compassion, serving both enterprise and equity. Despite boardroom debates, that legacy may yet prevail over primacy to the balance sheet.

R. Narayanan,
Navi Mumbai

Corrections & Clarifications

A report ('Sport' page, November 3, 2025), "Tjen gets the better of Birrell to clinch her maiden WTA 250 title", referred to Janice Tjen as an Australian tennis player in one instance. She is Indonesian, as mentioned correctly in the rest of the report.

The Readers' Editor's office can be contacted by Telephone: +91-44-28576347/28576300; E-mail:readerseditor@thehindu.co.in

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

The malleable Code of Conduct

Rangarajan R

is a former IAS officer and author of 'Courseware on Polity Simplified'. He currently trains at Officers IAS Academy. Views expressed are personal.

Ambedkar famously remarked in the Constituent Assembly, "However good a Constitution may be, it is sure to turn out bad because those who are called to work it happen to be a bad lot". Well, it applies equally to any law or code framed for functioning of the country and its various public processes.

The Model Code of Conduct (MCC) for guidance of political parties and candidates is a set of norms which has evolved with the consensus of political parties. They have consented to abide by the principles embodied in the said code. It binds them to respect and observe it in its letter and spirit. This code began to be implemented strictly in the 1990s and has been revised in 2013 by the Election Commission of India (EC).

The MCC is operational from the date on which the election schedule is announced until the date of announcement of result.

The MCC lays down code for general conduct during campaign process by political parties and contesting candidates. With respect to the party or parties in power, it stipulates that ministers and other authorities shall not announce any financial grants, promise any construction of roads or provision of drinking water, announce new projects, lay foundation stone for projects or schemes of any kind which may have the effect of influencing the voters in favour of the party or parties in power.

Violations galore

The MCC is a voluntary set of norms to be followed by political parties and candidates. It is by itself not legally enforceable. Violations of certain provisions of the MCC with respect to campaign process can be enforced through invoking corresponding provisions in criminal laws and the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (RP Act). However, it is the announcement of financial grants or of new projects by the ruling government just before elections that can vitiate the level playing field thereby impairing free and fair elections. The code does not restrict grants or disbursements under ongoing programmes on the date of announcement of elections.

A famous quote from Hamlet goes, "more honoured in the breach than in the observance". This is meant for customs and laws that are better off being ignored than being followed. In the Indian electoral context, however, it has become a norm to breach the codes and laws. Politicians find ingenious ways of circumventing the MCC when it comes to announcement of projects or distribution of grants.

Cash politics

The recent example is the launch of Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana (MMRY) in Bihar in August 2025. Under the scheme, women are eligible to receive ₹10,000 as grant for self-employment and livelihood opportunities. The disbursements started on September 26, 2025 with the Prime Minister transferring the grant to 75 lakh women. Subsequently weekly instalments are being transferred to beneficiaries since October with recent one being on October 31 and the next on November 7. One-time cash transfer to the underprivileged and needy women, despite its fiscal burden on the state, does provide some much-needed succour.

However, with the elections scheduled to be held in two phases on November 6 and November 11, it is a valid criticism that this is breaking the MCC in spirit and influencing voters in favour of the ruling party through direct cash transfers. Taking refuge under the guise of an ongoing scheme, which was anyway launched just a month before the announcement of elections, does not seem kosher.

It is not the first time that MCC has been broken in spirit when it comes to announcements of new projects just before elections. Successive ruling governments at both the Centre and various States, representing the entire spectrum of political parties in India, are guilty of this breach. The MMRY scheme, nonetheless, does push the dubious envelope of such breach to a new low.

Stop the sham

In 2013, the Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice, recommended making the MCC legally binding. However, the EC is not in favour since the elections have to be completed within a relatively short period of around 45 days while judicial proceedings take longer.

There has been criticism directed at the EC for turning a blind eye to such blatant violations of the MCC, if not in letter but in spirit. However, considering the Machiavellian ability of our political leaders to invent new ways of working around election laws, even the sincerest attempts in curbing such practices would be a wild goose chase.

"It is much more important to kill bad laws than to pass good ones," said the former U.S. President Calvin Coolidge. It may be apt to apply this to most parts of MCC that deal with government schemes and projects. Violation of code with respect to campaign process can be suitably dealt with by the EC under its existing powers.

However, the MCC guidelines that stipulate no fresh projects or financial grants after announcement of elections can be done away with as they are more breached in spirit than followed.

One of the arguments for conduct of simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State Assemblies is to minimise the impact of MCC that restricts new government programmes and schemes with multiple elections every year. Scrapping these provisions in MCC would at least result in one farcical reason being less for the arguments in favour of simultaneous polls.

Successive governments at both the Centre and various States, representing the entire spectrum of political parties in India, are breaking the spirit of MCC

Data, dissent and uncertainty

Karnataka's caste survey concludes but challenges remain ahead

STATE OF PLAY

Sharath S. Srivatsa
sharath.srivatsa@thehindu.co.in

Karnataka has just completed the Social and Educational Survey of its population last week, a decade after the one conducted in 2015 whose report never saw the light of the day. The second survey came amid resistance from the dominant castes, backed by the Opposition BJP.

The exercise withstood attempts by its opponents to create controversy, including a legal challenge. It ended with about 90% of the State's population covered in just over a month. About 6.13 crore out of the projected 6.85 crore population in the State were covered by October 31, when the door-to-door survey ended. The online window is open till November 10.

Many hurdles

Several challenges were raised, from questioning the competence of the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes in holding the survey to disputing its legal basis, many doubted the intention and necessity of such an exercise that cost the exchequer about ₹450 crore. On the eve of the launch, the Commission, under pressure from the BJP and Hindutva groups, masked 33 Christian subcastes in the list with Hindu caste prefixes.

Throughout the survey, there were also reports of enumerators, who were teachers or government employees, being abused by a section of the people, before shutting the door on them.

Though dominant castes have shown an antipathy to the survey, there are striking

differences in the way this was expressed by different groups within this category. The politically-dominant and landowning Vokkaligas in Old Mysore region, and Veerashaiva-Lingayats in north Karnataka, who opposed the last survey, remained highly critical of the present one too. But they took part in it. Both communities are not only in the backward classes list and beneficiaries of reservation, but establishing their numbers remains important for them to wield political clout. They asked their community members, through their caste organisations, to enumerate themselves in a certain way, so that their numbers can be projected as significant.

However, a section of the Brahmin community, who do not count themselves as beneficiaries of government schemes or reservation, abstained. In Karnataka, the EWS reservation, which could help economically weaker households in public employment and education, has not yet been implemented.

Non-participants

Taking a cue from the Karnataka High Court's order that made participation in the survey voluntary, many households refused to participate. Political leaders, including Union Minister Pralhad Joshi and Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya, aired their opinion against the survey. In fact, Dharwad, represented by Mr. Joshi, lagged in the survey progress as the first deadline reached. Prominent people like Infosys co-founder N.R. Narayana Murthy and his wife and Rajya Sabha MP Sudha Murty not taking part also hit headlines.

In all, according to the Commission, about 4.22 lakh households (not all from the same community) refused to participate in the survey. About 34.49 lakh houses remained vacant or locked. The Commission will now look into secondary data of those households that have refused to take part before preparing its report.

Abstention by a section of people has faced criticism from several quarters. The households that refused to participate or the community leaders who opposed the survey have been accused of not just being insensitive to social justice in a larger sense, but even being elitist with little concern about the poor within their own community.

The coming months will possibly witness heightened anxiety among the most backward communities, many of which have not had representation either in political realm or bureaucracy. These communities are anticipating the submission of the report and its quick implementation.

The Vokkaligas and Veerashaiva-Lingayats do not want the report going public, while the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, who form about 25% of the population, are indifferent because it is of little consequence to them. Kuruba, a large caste group within the OBCs, is looking to secure a Scheduled Tribe tag. With varied caste interests at play, how the report will be received and interpreted remains to be seen.

Can Congress overcome its 'weak link' tag in Bihar polls?

The party posted the lowest contested vote share and strike rate among alliance partners in 2020

DATA POINT

Sambavi Parthasarathy
Vignesh Radhakrishnan

The Data Point published on Wednesday discussed in detail the spoiler effect created by Asaduddin Owaisi's All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) in the 2020 Bihar Assembly election and examined the possibility of it influencing the upcoming 2025 polls as well. This effect was one of the key reasons the 2020 election turned out to be a closely fought contest between the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) and the RJD-led *mahagatbandhan* (grand alliance).

Today, we will examine another major reason behind the close contest in 2020—the Congress party's poor performance—and assess whether this imbalance within the alliance could influence the outcome of the 2025 polls.

In 2020, Congress recorded a contested vote share of 32.9%, the lowest among major *mahagatbandhan* alliance partners, as shown in **Table 1**. In comparison, the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) secured 39%, CPI 33.3%, CPI(M) 37.6%, and CPI(ML)(L) 41.4%. Contested vote share refers to the percentage of votes a party receives in the seats it fought. In the 2015 election, Congress recorded a contested vote share of 39.5%.

Table 2 shows the strike rate of parties, calculated by dividing the number of seats won by the total seats contested. In 2020, Congress had a strike rate of 27.1%, once again the lowest among the *mahagatbandhan* alliance partners. In comparison, the RJD recorded 52.1%, CPI 33.3%, CPI(M) 50%, and CPI(ML)(L) 63.1%. In fact, Congress's strike rate that year was lower than that of the major constituents of the NDA as well.

In the 2015 election, Congress's strike rate was much higher at 65.9%. While the strike rates of the RJD and JD(U) also declined between 2015 and 2020, the steepest drop was seen in Congress's performance.

Table 3 presents the share of seats won by parties with a victory margin of less than 5% of votes. For instance, in 2020, Congress won 52.6% of its seats with a margin below 5%, the highest such proportion among the *mahagatbandhan* alliance partners. While **Tables 1** and **2** indicate that Congress is losing more seats and securing significantly lower vote shares than its partners, **Table 3** shows that even in the seats it won in 2020, more than half were close contests.

Taken together, these three data points show that Congress remains the weaker link in the alliance, which partly explains why it is fielding fewer candidates in 2025 compared to 2020. However, since the majority of the seats Congress is contesting in 2025 are the same as those it contested and lost in 2020, reversing its fortunes will be a challenging task.

Further, in 2020, Congress had a poor strike rate of only 18.9% in direct contests against the BJP, and in 2025, the two parties are set to face each other in 31 seats. Against the JD(U), Congress had a better strike rate of 35.7% in 2020, and in 2025 they will compete against each other in 24 seats **(Table 4)**. However, Congress's higher strike rate against the JD(U) may also be attributed to the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) splitting votes and hurting JD(U)'s chances in many seats.

Congress's overall improved performance in 2025, particularly in seats contested against the BJP, will be a crucial factor for the *mahagatbandhan*.

To complicate matters further, Congress faces friendly contests in five seats against the RJD, in four seats against the Left parties, and in one seat against a smaller partner, the Indian Inclusive Party. If 2025 is another close contest, these seats with friendly fights could come under scrutiny, especially if they are lost **(Table 5)**.

Unequal partners

The data for the charts were sourced from the Election Commission of India and Lok Dhaba. In the tables below, **MGB refers to the Mahagatbandhan alliance and NDA refers to the National Democratic Alliance**

Table 1: Contested vote share of select parties in the previous assembly elections. It is the % of votes a party receives in the seats fought

		Contested vote share	
Alliance	Party	2020	2015
NDA	BJP	42.6%	37.5%
NDA	JD(U)	32.3%	40.7%
NDA	HAM(S)	32.4%	26.9%
MGB	RJD	39.0%	44.4%
MGB	INC	32.9%	39.5%
MGB	CPI(ML)(L)	41.4%	3.8%
MGB	CPI	33.3%	3.4%
MGB	CPI(M)	37.6%	3.3%

Table 2: Strike rate of select parties, calculated by dividing the number of seats won by the total seats contested

		Strike rate	
Alliance	Party	2020	2015
NDA	BJP	67.3%	33.8%
NDA	JD(U)	37.4%	70.3%
NDA	HAM(S)	57.1%	4.8%
MGB	RJD	52.1%	79.2%
MGB	INC	27.1%	65.9%
MGB	CPI(ML)(L)	63.1%	3.1%
MGB	CPI	33.3%	0.0
MGB	CPI(M)	50%	0.0

Table 3: Share of seats won by parties with a victory margin of less than 5% of votes

Alliance	Party	2020	2015
NDA	BJP	21.6%	43.4%
NDA	JD(U)	39.5%	18.3%
NDA	HAM(S)	75%	0.0%
MGB	RJD	34.7%	13.8%
MGB	INC	52.6%	22.2%
MGB	CPI(ML)(L)	8.3%	33.3%
MGB	CPI	50%	-
MGB	CPI(M)	0.0	-

Even in the seats the Congress had won in 2020, more than half were close contests with narrow victory margins

Table 4: Seats contested and strike rates of Congress in direct contests with the BJP and the JD(U)

	Seats contested by INC in direct contests		
	2025	2020	2015
BJP	31	37	28
JD(U)	24	28	-
	INC's strike rate in direct contests		
	2020	2015	
BJP	18.9%	67.9%	
JD(U)	35.7%	-	

Table 5: Assembly seats with 'friendly contests' within the MGB alliance in the 2025 Bihar election

INC vs RJD	INC vs Left	RJD vs VIP	INC vs IIP
Narkatiaganj	Rajapakar	Gaura Bauram	Beldaur
Vaishali	Bachhwara	Chainpur	
Kahalgaon	Biharsharif		
Sultanganj	Kargahar		
Sikandra			

IIP: Inclusive India Party, VIP: Vikassheel Insaan Party

Left parties mentioned in the above table include Communist Party of India: (CPI), Communist Party of India (Marxist): CPI(M), and Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) (Liberation): CPI(ML)(L)

Janshakti Janta Dal (JJD) which is with the MGB alliance has not been included for the analysis

vignesh.r@thehindu.co.in, sambavi.p@thehindu.co.in

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 6, 1975

Four top Bangla leaders in jail assassinated

NEW DELHI, Nov. 5: Four leaders, including Mr. Tajuddin Ahmed and Syed Nazrul Islam, who steered Bangladesh to freedom through a gory struggle, were assassinated on Monday, within three months of the brutal gunning down of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Radio Bangladesh which announced the assassinations today—the third day of the turmoil in Dacca—did not give the names of the killers but subsequent developments left little doubt that they were very army officers who engineered the August 15 coup in which the Sheikh and his family members were killed.

The two other assassinated on Monday were Mr. A.K.M. Kamaruzzaman and Mr. Mansur Ali.

With these killings, Mr. Khondakar Mushtaque Ahmed remains the sole survivor of the five-member provisional regime which guided the freedom struggle from Mujibnagar after the Pakistani army crackdown on March 26, 1971.

Mr. Tajuddin Ahmed was Prime Minister of the provisional Government and Mr. Nazrul Islam the acting President, in the absence of Sheikh Mujib who was then in Pakistani jail.

Radio Bangladesh said that Monday's killings took place in Dacca Central Jail, where the four leaders had been lodged after the August 15 coup. Another leader arrested after the coup was Mr. Abdus Samad, who was a member of Sheikh Mujib's Cabinet. His fate is unknown.

Radio Bangladesh announced in the morning that a three-member judicial committee headed by the Supreme Court Chief Justice had been appointed to inquire into the "heinous crimes" committed by "miscreants".

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 6, 1925

Plot to assassinate Soviet leaders

(Reuter's Agency.)

MOSCOW, Nov. 5: The President of the Central Executive of the Soviet Union has commuted the sentence of death passed on three German students, into one of 10 years' imprisonment.

[The three German students, who were alleged to belong to German reactionary "Konsul" organisation, were sentenced to death on a charge of plotting to assassinate Trotsky and Stalin.]

From Page One

'Vote theft took place in Haryana with EC help'

Asked if the party would seek legal recourse, Mr. Gandhi said, "The Supreme Court, the highest court of the country, is watching. We are not doing this in a private room but in front of the media." He called upon "Gen Z and the youth" to restore democracy through *satya* (truth) and *ahimsa* (non-violence). "If the voter lists are a lie in Haryana, then there were no elections," he said. "I am telling the youth, Gen Z, and the citizens that this democracy belongs to you and not the EC or Narendra Modi. You have to protect it."

There were 2 crore voters in Haryana during the election.

He alleged there were 5,21,619 duplicate voters, 93,174 invalid addresses, and 19,26,351 bulk voters. Similarly, he showed an address in Hodal where there were 501 voters in a single address, 223 voters in two booths with the same photograph, and so on. "The other surprising aspect was that for the first time in Haryana, postal votes were different from the result. In postal ballots, Congress got 73 seats while the BJP got 17," he said.

Mr. Gandhi started the press conference by playing out a video clip of Haryana Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini telling presspersons that the BJP will win the Assembly and they (the BJP) have all the *vyavasta* (arrangements).

The Opposition leader also took on Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar's claim that house number "0" (Zero) is used for homeless people. "Look at the voters' list where Mr. Narender's house is marked as 0. We looked for him and found this as his house," he said, showing a two-storey house.

New York elects first South Asian Mayor

Mr. Mamdani's meteoric rise from a little-known State assemblyman into the frontrunner for New York Mayor is one of the most potent case studies in grassroots organising in contemporary American politics.

A little over a year ago, as Democrats reeled from Mr. Trump's re-emergence, Mr. Mamdani stood on a street corner in Astoria in Queens with a microphone, asking passers-by, including Trump supporters, why they voted the way they did.

"A year ago, we stood right here, talking to New Yorkers after Mr. Trump's win," he said in a video he shared on social media from the same spot a year later, noting how few were even willing to engage then. "Today, people are excited about politics again – on the very same street where almost no one wanted that conversation."

He mobilised a coalition of ethnic and religious communities often overlooked by citywide candidates, bringing his economic message directly to thousands of immigrant New Yorkers.

In his victory speech, Mr. Mamdani said: "New York will remain a city of immigrants, a city built by immigrants, powered by immigrants and as of tonight, led by an immigrant."

Mr. Mamdani said his candidacy challenged conventional wisdom, adding: "I am young, despite my best efforts to grow older. I am Muslim. I am a democratic socialist. And most damning of all, I refuse to apologise for any of this."

Mr. Mamdani's campaign built one of the largest door-to-door operations in modern city politics, knocking on over two million doors and making more than three million phone calls. His campaign was multilingual, multifaith, and unmistakably working-class where volunteers canvassed in Urdu, Bangla, Arabic, and Spanish and outreach events were also held in mosques, gurdwaras, temples and churches.

(Anisha Dutta is a New York-based journalist)

Centre's guidelines for AI call for trust, safety

The report has six recommendations also: expand access to AI infrastructure and "leverage the power of digital public infrastructure for scale, impact and inclusion"; build capacity by skilling in AI; "adopt balanced, agile and flexible frameworks" as far as regulating AI is concerned; mitigate risks by looking at "India-specific" factors that need to be addressed; boost accountability in the AI ecosystem by requiring "greater transparency... about how different actors in the AI value chain operate".

"We are calling this the AI Governance Guidelines, not AI regulation or anything like that, because we don't want it to be viewed as something that throttles AI adoption in India," he said.

While the previous framework laid emphasis on minimising risks inherent in deploying AI, the current model scales this back to promoting innovation with guardrails. The report also strips away much of the previous work done by NITI Aayog and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development that was foundational to the earlier draft framework's approach.

In the long term, the report says, new laws should be drafted based on "emerging risks and capabilities" of AI systems. Responding to reports on the government considering a new AI law, IT Secretary S. Krishnan said that there were no immediate plans, but as and when there would be an urgent need for such legislation, the government would act swiftly.

The AI guidelines are separate from a draft amendment to the IT Rules, 2021.

'Outside' forces using Rahul as pawn to defame India: BJP

Kiren Rijiju says the Indian youth is with the PM and will not fall for 'illogical' charges levelled by Rahul Gandhi; he says BJP has never blamed any democratic institution for electoral defeats

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju, right, and BJP spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia address a press conference in New Delhi on Wednesday. ANI

Shortly after Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, levelled fresh allegations of "vote *chori*", the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Wednesday accused him of making fraudulent allegations against democratic institutions at the "instigation of forces" that aim at tarnishing the image of the country.

"Sitting outside, they give him ideas to defame our country, and he is blaring it out loud like a loudspeaker here," Union Minister Kiren Rijiju said at a press conference, referring to Mr. Gandhi's recent foreign visits.

"There are many people, in and outside the country, who are using Rahul Gandhi as a pawn to harm our image and the emerging power of India. Along with him, there are some other people whom they use. Rahul Gandhi is a prominent figure among them," he said.

Stating that the country's youth was with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and would not fall for such "illogical" charges, Mr. Rijiju said: "They see that India has become the fastest growing major economy under his leadership, while there is an economic slowdown in other parts of the world."

In response to the charges of 'vote *chori*' related to the 2024 Haryana Assembly polls, Mr. Rijiju said that Mr. Gandhi was trying to divert attention as he had no hopes of winning the Bihar polls. He said the voters' list was a public document, available on the website of the Election Commission. "Political parties can view it. An opportunity for claims/objections is given and corrections are made. In the voting process, every political party has polling agents. Election Commission officials and observers from outside are deployed. Polling agents check if voters are genuine," he said, asking if the Congress did not have any polling agent in Haryana.

Mr. Rijiju said that after the voting process is over, a petition with the poll body could be filed and then an appeal made in court if required. "However, they neither approach the Election Commission nor the court. They will just hold a press conference, show someone else's presentation and run away," he said. In Haryana, he said, even the Congress leaders had attributed the party's defeat to a lack of internal coordination at the grassroots level.

"The people of Bihar are happy with the purification of electoral rolls (Special Intensive Revision). However, Rahul Gandhi appears to be the only one with a problem," he said, adding that even Congress and RJD leaders in the State were unhappy with Mr. Gandhi. "He does not go among people or work hard. He appears occasionally, waves his hands, and vanishes again," said Mr. Rijiju.

"When he does not engage with the people and keeps travelling abroad, he is bound to lose elections. Still, the Congress wins in some States. Why does he not raise these questions then? How did the Congress come to power in Telangana, Karnataka, and Himachal Pradesh? How many consecutive victories have the Opposition parties won in Tamil Nadu and Kerala," he asked.

The Union Minister alleged that Mr. Gandhi in the past targeted the Army, questioned the judiciary, and also attacked the poll panel when election results were not in his favour. He said the BJP never blamed any democratic institution for electoral defeats. He said that when the Congress was in power at the Centre, judges and Election Commissioners were appointed by the government.

"But BJP never said that it did not believe in democracy. We kept fighting, gained the trust of the people, and won," he said.

Rahul's claims on Haryana voter list are unfounded: EC

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

A senior official said that the LoP could present any evidence with the petitions filed in High Court

As Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, made yet another attack on the Election Commission (EC), this time with respect to the Haryana Assembly election, the poll panel on Wednesday said that the charges were "unfounded" and asked why the Congress had not flagged voters who had allegedly cast multiple votes.

The poll body said Mr. Gandhi's statements indicate his support for the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, which he had earlier opposed. "On one hand, Rahul Gandhi opposes SIR, which purifies electoral rolls, and on the other, he keeps giving presentations bringing out impurities in past electoral rolls. It is clear that he is supporting SIR despite opposing it in the beginning," a senior EC official remarked.

Mr. Gandhi alleged that 25 lakh fake voters were listed in Haryana ahead of the election held in October 2024. He shared the voters' list of the Rai Assembly constituency of Haryana in which the photograph of a Brazilian model was used 22 times across 10 booths as voters with different names.

Mr. Gandhi could present his evidence in the petitions already filed for Rai and Hodal Assembly constituencies in the Punjab and Haryana High Court, the EC official said. The poll body has reiterated that "zero appeals" were filed against the electoral rolls and only 22 election petitions were currently pending in the High Court.

The EC official also raised questions as to why the Congress's booth-level agents had not flagged the voters who had allegedly cast multiple votes in Haryana.

House numbers

On the question of houses numbered 'zero' in the rolls, EC officials said 'House Number Zero' is given by booth-level officers to houses where the panchayat and municipalities have not given numbers.

The BJP had won 48 seats in the Haryana Assembly election of 2024, while the Congress, which was predicted to win by many exit polls, bagged 37 seats. The Indian National Lok Dal won two seats while Independent candidates bagged three in the 90-member Assembly.

SIR 2025: EC's transparency claim challenged in SC

NEWS ANALYSIS

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The run-up to the first phase of polling in Bihar on November 6 witnessed the Election Commission of India (EC) furiously defend the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in the Supreme Court, even as petitioners questioned the EC's claim that the current exercise is a continuation of the "transparent" 2003 intensive revision of the State's electoral rolls.

The final voter list of Bihar, released on September 30 at the conclusion of the SIR exercise, had removed 3.66 lakh ineligible electors from the draft list published on August 1. Opposition parties have questioned the SIR exercise, and demanded the EC come out with reasons for the exclusion of these names.

The EC had said the SIR 2025 was a mere repetition of an exercise which used to take place regularly until 2003. It had used the 2003 electoral roll as "probative evidence of eligibility, including presumption of citizenship".

Interestingly, one of the petitioners, the Association for Democratic Reforms, represented by advocates Prashant Bhushan and Neha Rathi, had pointed out to the court that the EC had "never placed on

A Booth Level Officer checks documents during the SIR of electoral rolls in Purnea, Bihar. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

record the original documents of Special Revision of Intensive Nature held in 2003 which it claims as a precedent and cut-off".

The petitioner had dug out records of the 2003 revision of rolls to unearth a 62-page document titled 'Electoral Rolls Special Revision of Intensive Nature with Qualifying Date 01.01.2003, Final Guidelines' to discover that the 2003 exercise was "fundamentally different" from the present SIR exercise.

The petitioners have raised five "basic differences" between the intensive revision in 2003 and SIR 2025. For one, the onus of entering eligible names on the electoral rolls in 2003 was wholly on the Enumerator (now called the Booth Level Officer) and not on the elector.

Secondly, there was no enumeration form to be filled by the electors and, correspondingly, no deadline to be met by potential electors, as in the SIR 2025. The enumerator had carried out a house-to-house survey to confirm, add or modify the existing electoral roll in consultation with the head of the household or senior adult member of the family.

Thirdly, there was no general requirement in 2003 for all the potential electors to provide at least one document.

Again, there was no general mandate to verify citizenship of each elector in 2003. The Guidelines of 2003 permitted an inquiry into citizenship only in the case of individuals declared as 'foreigners' by the competent tribunals.

Finally, the 2003 intensive revision provisions did not allow exclusion of any name on the pre-existing rolls without going through due process for deletion of names.

The Supreme Court was scheduled to hear on the constitutionality of the Bihar SIR on Tuesday. However, both Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi, who formed the Bench hearing the case did not assemble on Tuesday.

FATF releases updated asset recovery framework; India played a key role, says ED

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The ED said that India played a key role in the development of revised FATF standards.

The global inter-governmental Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has released the "Asset Recovery Guidance and Best Practices" guidelines, which provide a comprehensive and updated framework to strengthen the global system for asset recovery against financial crimes.

"The guidance follows up on one of the most significant global reforms to the FATF standards on confiscation and international cooperation in over three decades. It outlines practical measures for policymakers and practitioners to identify, trace, freeze, manage, confiscate, and return assets derived from criminal activity," the Enforcement Directorate (ED) said on Wednesday.

The ED stated that India played a prominent role in the development of both the revised FATF standards and the guidance document.

"The document contains multiple examples from cases investigated by the ED, which are cited as models of effective asset recovery practice and inter-agency coordination. This recognition reflects the increasing international standing of India and the ED in the global discourse on asset recovery and financial crime enforcement," it said. The new framework expands the definition of asset recovery to cover the entire process from the identification of criminal property to its eventual confiscation and return. "For the first time, the FATF has mandated that countries provide for non-conviction-based confiscation, enabling authorities to recover criminal assets even in the absence of a criminal conviction where prosecution is not possible or practical," the agency said.

The guidance also promotes the adoption of tools such as extended confiscations and unexplained-wealth orders that require individuals to show the lawful origin of their assets when there is reasonable suspicion of criminal linkage. Greater emphasis has been placed on provisional measures to secure assets at an early stage and prevent their dissipation.

Sikh relic brought to Patna from Delhi after over 300 years

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

An important holy relic related to the Sikh faith, the sacred *Jore Sahib*, the footwear of the 10th Sikh Guru, Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji Maharaj, and his wife, Mata Sahib Kaur Ji, had an unusual journey of 1,500 kilometres from New Delhi to Patna after a gap of more than 300 years.

It was established on November 1 at the Takhat Sri Harmandir Ji Patna Sahib.

The establishment of the reliquary at Patna Sahib, the birthplace of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji, is being seen as a major event in the Sikh faith, as the private custodians of the relics have offered them to the larger Sikh congregation.

The relics were scientifically validated by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, and a system for transporting and further preservation of the relics was created. The provenance of the relics were authenticated by the Union Ministry of Culture via carbon dating. Interestingly, the private custodians of the relics are related to the family of the Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri.

The picture shows the sacred *Jore Sahib*, the actual footwear of the 10th Sikh Guru.

"Our ancestors were in the service of Guru Maharaj with the holy Jore Sahib 'Charan Suhawa' more than 300 years ago...," Mr. Puri said in a post on X at the conclusion of a yatra.

Was denied entry into Pak. with Sikh group: pilgrim

Press Trust of India
CHANDIGARH

A Hindu pilgrim has claimed that he and his family members were sent back by Pakistan after they crossed over to the neighbouring nation to participate in the birth anniversary celebrations of Guru Nanak Dev in Nankana Sahib district of Pakistan's Punjab province.

A *jatha* (group) of nearly 1,900 Sikh pilgrims had crossed the Attari-Wagah border on Tuesday. Amar Chand said he was among those pilgrims.

"Pakistani officials told us you are Hindu, you cannot go with a Sikh *jatha*," said Mr. Chand, who was sent back along with six family members.

Mr. Chand, who was earlier a Pakistani national and came to India in 1999 before obtaining Indian citizenship in 2010, claimed that seven other Indians were also turned back.

BIHAR ASSEMBLY ELECTION

FIR based on 'doctored' video, says Lalan

Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan' on Wednesday claimed that a video clip, which has led to a first information report against him over an alleged violation of the Model Code of Conduct in poll-bound Bihar, was "doctored".

The former Janata Dal (United) president, who was booked on Tuesday under relevant sections of the BNSS and the Representation of People Act for a speech he gave in Mokama, expressed confidence that the investigation would take into account "the full video footage" and lead to his exoneration.

He also accused the Rashtriya Janata Dal cadres of threatening poor people in Mokama with dire consequences if they cast their votes in favour of CM Nitish Kumar's JD(U). PTI

Rajiv Ranjan Singh

Defeat NDA to end migration, says Congress

The Congress on Wednesday put out 20 points on what it called "deceptions, injustices, and neglect inflicted upon" the State by the BJP-JD(U) government, urging the voters to defeat the NDA to end unemployment, migration, corruption, and "*goonda raj*".

Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh alleged that the NDA has pushed Bihar's bright future into darkness for the sake of its own "power-hungry interests".

"Due to the NDA government's failed economic and employment policies, people were forced to leave their homes and migrate to other States for labour work," he said.

Mr. Ramesh also cited the caste-based survey in the State and said 64% of the population is surviving on just ₹67 a day. PTI

> NDA stands for HIRA... H for highway, I for internet, R for railway, and A for airport... Developments have taken place in Bihar and will continue
>
> **J. P. NADDA**
> BJP national president

Ahead of polls, JSP candidate joins BJP

Sanjay Singh, the Jan Suraaj Party candidate from Bihar's Munger, joined the BJP on Wednesday, ahead of the first phase of Assembly elections, officials said. Mr. Singh extended his support to Kumar Pranay, the BJP candidate from the seat. He expressed confidence that the NDA would win the polls. PTI

> This time, Nitish Kumar's inability to work, and the way the BJP ignored him will lead to a reduction in BJP's seats. JD(U) seats will also be reduced
>
> **PRAMOD TIWARI**
> Congress leader

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh during a rally in Fatuha constituency in Patna. PTI

Rahul trying to create anarchy with remarks on Army: Rajnath

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday came down heavily on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over his remarks on the Indian Army, saying the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha was trying to "create anarchy" by demanding reservation in the Army. Mr. Singh added that the Army should not be "dragged into politics".

On Tuesday, Mr. Gandhi had said the Army was "under the control of 10% of the country's population".

Mr. Singh, who addressed election rallies in the Banka, Jamui, Sikandra and Gurua Assembly constituencies, criticised Mr. Gandhi for bringing the Army into political debates. He said the Army followed only one religion – "*Sainya* [Military] *Dharma*", and there was no place for caste or religion in the armed forces.

"What happened to Rahul *ji*? He is raising the issue of reservations in the defence forces. He is simply trying to create anarchy in the country, our forces are above all these," Mr. Singh said while addressing a rally in Jamui.

'Deeply damaging'

Expressing anger, Mr. Singh condemned caste-, sect- and religion-based politics, calling it deeply damaging to the nation's unity and progress. Mr. Singh said that India's culture has never promoted discrimination and every section of society deserves equal upliftment.

The senior BJP leader also claimed Mr. Gandhi should know that "running the country was no child's play".

Mr. Singh also spoke about Operation Sindoor, highlighting that major terror hideouts were destroyed during the operation. "The operation is temporarily paused, not stopped, and India will strike back if terrorism re-emerges," Mr. Singh said.

He criticised the previous Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and Congress governments for the gap between their words and actions, saying it led to a crisis of trust among citizens.

Praising the Bihar government, he said under Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's leadership and the NDA's governance, Bihar has witnessed rapid development. He recalled that earlier, people in Bihar struggled for basic amenities like electricity and roads, but today, Metro trains run in Patna. Mr. Singh also declared that the NDA will form the government in Bihar with a two-thirds majority, as people have faith in its development-oriented governance.

'No proof'

He also cited the NDA's focus on infrastructure, electricity, roads and education, crediting Mr. Modi's leadership for India's transformation.

Mr. Singh lashed out at Opposition parties attacking constitutional institutions like the Election Commission and said, "They level allegations but fail to produce any proof, even when asked repeatedly."

BJP president J.P. Nadda also addressed public meetings in Madhuban and Narkatiaganj Assembly constituencies, where he claimed the RJD's identity had still not changed. "Extortion, jungle raj, and law-breaking are in their DNA," Mr. Nadda said.

Bihar first phase today; crucial for big leaders and small parties in alliances

The Opposition's Chief Minister face, Tejashwi Yadav, is in the fray, as are Deputy CMs Samrat Choudhary and V.K. Sinha; crucial test for CPI(ML), LJP(RV), VIP; in 2020, Grand Alliance won 63 of the 121 seats going to the polls; half of the 20 CPI(ML) candidates are contesting in this phase

IN FOCUS

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Over 3.75 crore voters in Bihar will cast their ballots in the first phase of the Assembly election on Thursday, covering 121 of the State's 243 constituencies. This phase is particularly significant for the Opposition *Mahagatbandhan* (Grand Alliance), which had secured 63 of these seats in the 2020 election. The ruling BJP and Janata Dal (United) together had won 55.

The first phase contests are also crucial for the smaller parties in both coalitions. Ten of the 20 constituencies where the CPI (ML) has fielded candidates will go to the polls in this phase. The party holds six of these seats. The CPI (ML) had one of the best strike rates in the 2020 election and to maintain the record, it will have to retain these seats. In the ruling NDA, 10 of the 29 seats that the Lok Janshakti Party (Ramvilas) is contesting are in the first phase. The NDA currently holds only one of these 10 seats. The LJP(RV)'s seat share had sparked discontent among NDA allies, particularly the Janata Dal (United), which argued that the party's allocation was disproportionate given its lack of representation in the Assembly.

This phase will also reveal whether the Vikasheel Insaan Party (VIP) is able to pull its own weight in the Opposition alliance. The electoral fate of six of the 15 seats it is contesting will be decided on Thursday. The Grand Alliance has named VIP president Mukesh Sahani as its Deputy Chief Ministerial candidate.

Top leaders in fray

Several top leaders are in fray in this phase, including the Opposition's chief ministerial face Tejashwi Yadav and over a dozen BJP and JD(U) Ministers in the Nitish Kumar government, including Deputy Chief Ministers Samrat Choudhary and Vijay Kumar Sinha. Mr. Choudhary is contesting a direct election after about a decade from Tarapur. Former Bihar BJP chief and State Minister Mangal Pandey is also contesting his first Assembly election from Siwan.

This phase will also test the electoral appeal of celebrities. Young folk singer Maithili Thakur (BJP-Aliganj), and Bhojpuri superstars Khesari Lal Yadav (RJD-Chhapra) and Ritesh Pandey (Jan Suraaj Party-Kargahar) are contesting in the first phase.

While the RJD succession battle has long been settled in favour of Mr. Tejashwi Yadav, this phase will also decide whether his estranged elder brother, Tej Pratap Yadav, who floated his own outfit, the Janshakti Janata Dal, will be able to mount a challenge. He is contesting from the Mahua constituency. Two other seats that are being closely watched are Mokama and Raghunathpur.

In Mokama, the JD(U)'s Anant Singh, recently arrested in connection with the murder of a Jan Suraaj Party supporter, is up against the RJD's Veena Devi, wife of Suraj Bhan, who also faces multiple criminal charges.

In Raghunathpur, Osama Shahab, the 31-year-old son of the late gangster-turned-politician Mohammad Shahabuddin, is contesting on the RJD ticket.

Voting will take place at 45,341 polling stations, a large majority of which fall in rural areas (36,733). According to the Election Commission, of the 3.75 crore voters in the 121 constituencies, 10.72 lakh are "new electors". The number of voters in the age group of 18 to 19, however, stands at 7.38 lakh.

Ready to vote: Polling staff and police personnel carry EVMs and election materials as they leave for their respective polling stations for the first phase of Bihar Assembly polls, in Patna on Wednesday. ANI

In Magadh region, NDA eyes comeback while Grand Alliance seeks to retain its stronghold

Amit Bhelari
JEHANABAD/ARWAL

The Magadh region could change the fate of both the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) and the Opposition *Mahagatbandhan* (Grand Alliance) in the second phase of the Bihar Assembly election. Spread over the five districts of Jehanabad, Aurangabad, Gaya Ji, Arwal, and Nawada, the region has 26 Assembly constituencies.

In the 2020 Assembly election, the Grand Alliance won 20 seats, whereas the NDA could only win six seats in Magadh. The Janata Dal (United) could not even win a single seat in four (Nawada, Jehanabad, Aurangabad, and Arwal) out of the five Magadh districts. In the fifth, Gaya Ji, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Hindustani Awam Morcha-Secular (HAM-S) saved face for the NDA.

Magadh, once a stronghold of the NDA, belied its expectations in the previous two Assembly elections.

As the NDA faces the challenge of regaining lost turf, the Grand Alliance is going all out to maintain its dominance for the third consecutive term.

Both the NDA and the Grand Alliance have given Magadh a special focus and have changed the candidates for several seats.

The NDA has also left some constituencies for the Lok Janshakti Party-Ram Vilas (LJP-RV) – Bodhgaya, Sherghati, Nawada, Govindpur, Makhdumpur, and Obra. The Chirag Paswan-led LJP-RV contested alone in 2020.

PM Narendra Modi will address a public meeting in the Magadh region on November 7

In the 2020 election, the Rashtriya Janata Dal's (RJD) Prakash Veer won from the Rajauli Assembly constituency in Nawada district, but he has not been given ticket this time.

In another change, the RJD has fielded Suday Yadav, the sitting MLA of Jehanabad, from the Kurtha constituency in Arwal district. Rahul Sharma, son of veteran Bhumihar leader Jagdish Sharma, has been asked to contest from Jehanabad by the party; he was earlier associated with the JD(U) and HAM(S).

The LJP(RV) is fielding Vimal Rajbanshi from Rajauli under the NDA's seat-sharing arrangement.

The RJD MLA from Nawada, Vibha Devi, is now contesting as a JD(U) candidate.

Anil Singh is contesting again from Hisua on the BJP ticket, although he finished second in the last election. Sitting RJD MLA Mohammad Kamran, after being denied ticket, is contesting as an Independent from Govindpur in Nawada. The RJD has fielded Purnima Yadav, who contested for the JD(U) in the last election.

Union Minister Jitam Ram Manjhi, who hails from Gaya Ji, is a prominent NDA leader in Magadh.

The HAM(S) has announced candidates for five out of the six seats it secured in the seat sharing.

The NDA's decision to give 11 out of the 26 seats in Magadh to the LJP(RV) and HAM(S) reflects its decision to bank on Scheduled Caste (SC) votes.

In the previous election, out of the 10 Assembly seats in Gaya Ji, the BJP won Gaya Town and Wazirganj. Mr. Manjhi's HAM(S) won Imamganj, Barachatti, and Tekari, whereas the RJD secured victory in Sherghati, Gurua, Bodhgaya, Belaganj, and Atri. The JD(U) failed to open its account, but it made a comeback by winning Belaganj in the 2024 byelection. Currently, the NDA holds six of the 10 seats in Gaya Ji.

In Gaya Ji district, the BJP, HAM(S), and JD(U) have two, three, and one Assembly seats, respectively, whereas the RJD has four. In Arwal, the RJD and the Communist Party of India Marxist-Leninist Liberation (CPI-ML-L) won one seat each. In Jehanabad, the RJD and CPI(ML-L) won two and one seats, respectively. In Aurangabad, the RJD and Congress shared four and two seats, respectively. In Nawada, the RJD won three, and the Congress and BJP won one seat each.

The RJD and its alliance partners are banking upon their core voters, the Muslim and Yadav communities, which dominate most of the rural areas in the Magadh region. This is the RJD's traditional vote bank. Their numbers are particularly high in districts including Gaya Ji, Nawada, and Jehanabad, and in Gaya Town.

The JD(U) and BJP's traditional voter base includes the Kurmi, Koeri, Brahmin, Bhumihar, and Rajput communities in Aurangabad, Jehanabad, Arwal, and Nawada.

There was a time in 2010 when the NDA won 24 out of 26 seats in Magadh. The RJD won only Belaganj, and one seat was won by an independent candidate. In 2010, the JD (U) won 16 seats and the BJP won eight.

In 2015, the Grand Alliance made a comeback. The RJD won 10 seats, the JD(U) six, the Congress four, the BJP five, and the HAM(S) won one seat.

Caste equations and the image of the local leadership play an important role in the Magadh region.

Women voters are expected to play an important role in this Assembly election, including in the Magadh region. The ₹10,000 provided as financial assistance by the Nitish Kumar government has been welcomed.

"We are happy with the money Nitish-*ji* has given to us. He has done a lot of work for women," Neelam Devi, an SC resident of the Karpi block in Arwal, said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address a public meeting in the Magadh region on November 7.

Crucial segment: Women voters will play an important role in the Assembly polls in Bihar, including in the Magadh region. AMIT BHELARI

'NDA wants to form govt. in Bihar through vote *chori*'

Press Trust of India
BETTIAH

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Wednesday alleged that the NDA wanted to form the government in Bihar through 'vote *chori*' and claimed that the names of 65 lakh people, including women, have been deleted from the electoral rolls through the special intensive revision (SIR).

Addressing a rally in the Valmiki Nagar constituency in West Champaran district, the Congress general secretary said that the current situation in the country was akin to the British Raj, and raised suspicion whether it would continue to witness elections in the future.

"NDA will destroy everything... It is not clear whether there will be elections in the future... Chase them out of power," Ms. Vadra told people attending the rally.

Attacking Prime Minister Narendra Modi, she said that he seemed more concerned about the absence of RJD leader and INDIA bloc's chief ministerial candidate Tejashwi Yadav's photograph from a Congress poster than controlling crime and corruption, and educating the youth.

She said that people of Bihar would receive free treatment of up to ₹25 lakh if the INDIA bloc was voted to power. "We will try our best to give at least one government job per poor family... We will fill up lakhs of vacancies in various departments," she added.

INBRIEF

Mansukh Mandaviya says Pak. misuses international forums

Countering Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari's claim that India was weaponising war, Union Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said in Doha on Wednesday that Pakistan was abusing an international forum. Mr. Mandaviya was addressing the Session of Second World Summit for Social Development. "We take strong objection to certain unjustified references made by President of Pakistan yesterday (Tuesday) on India in his remarks. This is an abuse of an international forum to distract the world from focusing on social development," he said. Mr. Mandaviya added that Pakistan has no *locus standi* to comment on India's internal affairs.

7 held for assaulting doctor, throwing black liquid on face

Seven men have been arrested in Sidhi district of Madhya Pradesh for allegedly assaulting a senior government doctor and throwing a black liquid on his face, reportedly over poor hospital facilities and private practice, the police said on Wednesday. The incident occurred on Monday morning, when district civil surgeon and head of the district hospital S. B. Khare, 64, was on his way to his private clinic. All accused, including prime suspect, Vivek Pandey, were arrested on Tuesday, Superintendent of Police Aman Mishra told *The Hindu*.

Police file case in Bilaspur train crash

Police say Railways' findings that the crew failed to control the passenger train at a red signal will be part of their probe; Commissioner of Railway Safety will begin investigation, says government

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

Probe on: The investigation will commence in the office of the Divisional Railway Manager, Bilaspur. Anyone with information regarding the accident can appear to give evidence or send it in writing. PTI

The Chhattisgarh Police on Wednesday registered a case of death by negligence and other offences against unknown persons in connection with the collision of a passenger train and a stationary goods train in Bilaspur on Tuesday. Eleven people were killed in the accident, the Railways said.

Superintendent of Police, Bilaspur, Rajnesh Singh said an FIR was registered on the basis of a memo submitted by the Railways on Tuesday. He said an initial probe by the Railways, which found that the crew had failed to control the passenger train at a red signal, will be part of the police investigation.

Signal violation

The report, prepared by five experts, found that the "crew of train no. 68733 (MEMU local) failed to control the train at danger signal no. AJ-5 and collided with the rear brake van (last coach) of train no. N/MDIT (goods train)". It said that the crew committed a "Signal Passed at Danger" violation – an instance of overshooting a red signal.

The train's loco pilot died in the crash while the injured assistant loco pilot remained hospitalised and unfit to give a statement till Wednesday evening.

"We received the initial report, but these are *prima facie* technical points and are part of our investigation. The Commissioner of Railway Safety will now look into the cause of the accident and provide a detailed report during which police officers will also be present," Mr. Singh said.

He said the FIR was registered under Sections 106 (1) (causing death by negligence), 125 (A) (causing hurt by an act endangering the life or personal safety of others) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and Sections 153, 154 and 175 of the Railways Act, 1989 (all dealing with negligence and endangering safety of persons on a railway carriage).

The Central government said that B.K. Mishra, Commissioner of Railway Safety (under the Ministry of Civil Aviation), South Eastern Circle, Kolkata, would conduct an inquiry under Section 113 of the Indian Railways Act.

" This investigation will commence in the office of Divisional Railway Manager, Bilaspur... . Any person having information regarding this accident and the facts related to it and willing to give evidence can appear and give evidence... or can send information in writing... ," the government said in a press release.

A railway spokesperson said the probe will begin formally on Thursday.

Parents dead, toddler stares at bleak future

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

Archana Yadav sounded overwhelmed while talking over the phone. As she sobbed and spoke, the cries of a toddler and the commotion of a hospital corridor muffled her voice. She was waiting for the CT scan report of her nephew Rishi.

Rishi, around two years old, had a "miraculous" escape but lost his parents and grandmother in Tuesday's train accident in Chhattisgarh's Bilaspur.

His parents, Arjun Yadav and Shila, and his maternal grandmother Manwati were among the 11 people killed in the accident. His photographs did the rounds on social media helping the family trace him a few hours after the tragedy.

"Life can change in an instant," Ms. Yadav said. "I spoke to Arjun an hour before the accident. He was returning with his family from Champa where he had gone to a hospital for treatment. He told me he was still on the train and was just a few kilometres short of Bilaspur. We expected him to return soon but that wasn't to be," she said.

Ms. Yadav was worried about Rishi's health as he sustained injuries on his head and legs.

But the future bothers her. She is concerned about her nephew's upbringing as Arjun, an autorickshaw driver, was a man of modest means and his death will saddle their elder brother Ajay with more responsibilities.

₹10 lakh ex-gratia

The Indian Railways has announced an ex-gratia of ₹10 lakh for the next of kin of the deceased, and the State government has promised ₹5 lakh.

In Bilaspur, Mr. Ajay was waiting for the bodies. "This is extremely tragic, and negligence has caused such a big accident," he told presspersons. He said the entire family had fallen apart after the accident, and urged the government to provide assistance.

Gopi Vastrakar, the son of Pramila Vastrakar who was on the train, said his mother was visiting his elder sister in Bilaspur after a long gap.

Stubble-burning area in Punjab 20% lower than last year's in three major districts: data

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Inferno footprint: Punjab's burnt area rose from 15.4 lakh hectares in 2022 to about 19 lakh in 2023, and stayed similar in 2024. ANI

While instances of stubble burning in Punjab in October were at a five-year low, the area that was actually set afire in three major districts – Amritsar, Taran Taran and Ferozpur – was likely 20% less than last year's, according to data sourced by *The Hindu* from a satellite-imagery firm and a senior official formerly with the Punjab Pollution Control Board.

However, the first fortnight of November is historically when farm fires in Punjab peak and there may well be a surge in the burnt area.

The government regularly shares daily data on the fire count but does not disclose burnt area. The link between fire counts and burnt area is significant for an accurate picture on efforts to curb farm fires, which in previous years have contributed as much as 35% of the daily winter pollution load in Delhi.

Last November, *The Hindu* reported – triggering the Supreme Court to order increased scrutiny – that Punjab's claims of a reduction in farm fires, by publicising only fire counts caught on satellite, did not capture reality. The area actually burnt in Punjab had increased in 2023 (19.1 lakh hectares) compared to 2022 (15.4 lakh hectares). This was likely due to farmers burning stubble after satellite-passes to avoid detection. In 2024, the burnt area was nearly the same as 2023, at 19.4 lakh hectares.

This year, satellite imagery of farm fires over Punjab only began emerging around October 10 – almost a month-long delay – due to heavy rain and flooding during most of September, contributing to a delayed harvest. Between October 13 and 28, the three districts were responsible for 515 fire events detected by satellite, about 55% of the 933 such events in the State. During the period, 2.46 lakh hectares were burnt in these districts, according to an analysis shared with *The Hindu* by Noida-based Suhora Technologies, a space-analytics company with expertise in using satellite imagery for a variety of applications.

Krunesh Garg, who had served as the Member Secretary, Punjab Pollution Control Board, until September 2025 and has for years monitored and implemented measures to address stubble burning, told *The Hindu* that data with him showed "the three districts at the same time last year reported 3.15 lakh hectares of burnt area". "If it is indeed 2.46 lakh hectares, that is a reduction and is certainly a positive sign...it shows that measures implemented in the last five years have started to show results," he added. He said that Amritsar and Taran Taran belt (northeast Punjab) typically saw fires start early and conclude by October-end. "I believe whatever burning that usually happens in those regions has already concluded," he noted.

The Hindu couldn't establish what proportion of cultivated area in the three districts of Amritsar, Taran Taran and Firozpur has been harvested.

In the week from October 28 to November 4, fire counts have sharply spiked from 993 to 2,839 – nearly three times higher than the cumulative October figure. Still, this is nearly half of the fire count logged at the same time last year and about a fifth of figures from 2023. The spike was attributed to the window for sowing wheat – the rabi crop – fast closing and available till November 15.

Chinese varsities dominate QS Asia rankings; India slips

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

This year, a total of 1,526 universities have been ranked, of which 557 are new

China has overtaken India as the most-represented location in the QS World University Rankings: Asia 2026, according to the rankings released this week.

While India added 132 universities and institutes to the list this year, taking its tally to a record high of 294, China added 259 institutions, bringing its total to 394.

In the last two editions, India had the highest number of universities and institutes in the rankings, ahead of China. This year, a total of 1,526 universities were ranked, of which 557 are new entries.

Among the top 100

Seven Indian institutions feature in the top 100, with the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, ranked highest at 59, followed by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), and the IITs in Madras, Bombay, Kharagpur, and Kanpur, along with the University of Delhi. China, meanwhile, has 25 universities in the top 100. While India retained the same number of institutes in the top 100 as last year, their rankings declined. The IIT-Delhi slipped from 44 in the 2025 rankings to 59 this year.

Delhi University fell from 81 to 95, the IISc from 62 to 64, and the IIT Madras from 56 to 70.

The top 10 positions in the 2026 rankings were dominated by universities from Hong Kong, Singapore, and China.

BJP to mark 150 years of *Vande Mataram*

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Wednesday announced that *Vande Mataram* would be collectively sung across the country on November 7, the day Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to attend one such event at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium here.

At a press conference, BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh said the party would organise programmes at the district and State levels to commemorate the 150th anniversary of *Vande Mataram* from November 7 to 26, coinciding with Constitution Day.

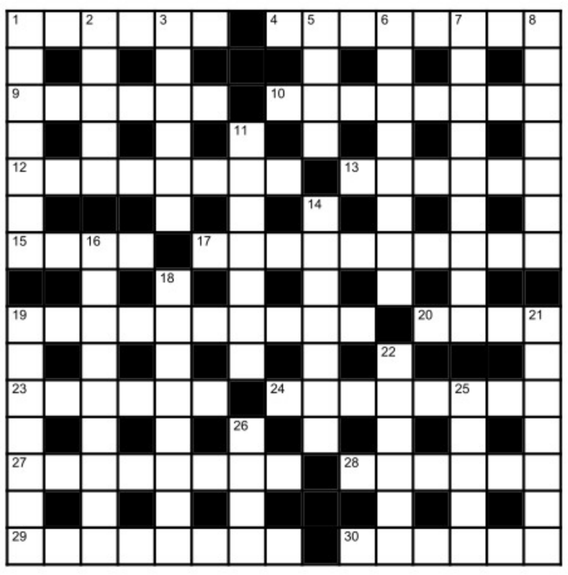
The celebrations will take place at 150 key sites of national significance, including the Kargil War Memorial, and nearly 1,100 locations in West Bengal.
(With PTI inputs)

TH CROSSWORD + 14632

(set by Karaoke)

Solve this puzzle online and access more puzzles at *https://crossword.thehindu.com*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Child in the making more by mutation (6)
4 Trusted friend at club receives criticism (8)
9 Hire ruthless gang to invade vacant estate (6)
10 Battered a follower with clue finally, worried over play on words (6,2)
12 Division protecting tower closely (3,2,3)
13 Kick bonnet, kick bottoms and cry (3-3)
15 Share equally? Not very well (4)
17 Mischievous sprite vandalising Nehru Place (10)
19 Official in a hurry to smoke no-name cigarette (6,4)
20 Type of workers' protest essentially in European city (4)
23 Pay tribute to sailor rescuing belugas heartily, mid-sea (6)
24 Termagant, most tough about lowest point (8)
27 Turns a blind eye to criminal with blades, I hear (8)
28 We join college old boys' network (6)
29 Rubbish can be reportedly in a stew sadly (5,3)
30 They are brutal and live like tough stuff (6)

Down

1 See-saw playing with husband? Nonsense (7)
2 Lady of high rank, say, hugged by beggar (5)
3 Niyogi cycling with woman proficient in physical exercises (6)
5 Deplores deceptive plan, they say (4)
6 Hint about tonic preparation, it hardly has any effect (3,2,3)
7 Spooner announces "Polish floors, idiots" (9)
8 Fever running but no infectious disease primarily? - It may frequently happen in India (7)
11 French city using old arsenal to destroy Russia at last (7)
14 Maybe second or third alternative number in phone (7)
16 They rescue by pumping current and oxygen finally to the almost dead (9)
18 Financial assistance rejected to ethnic group for attack (8)
19 Fight and triumph, reject left and right, it continuously generates funds (4,3)
21 Substitute in second round compilation (7)
22 Model's journey without essential authority in Tube (6)
25 Drinks in daybreaks, not active for office primarily (5)
26 Shop selling prepared foods in capital, neither new nor hot! (4)

SUDOKU

					6	2	8	
				4	9			5
	4		8		3			6
				3		9		
	5	6				3	7	
		4		8				
3			5		1		2	
1			2	9				
	6	2	3					

No.SS6692 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

E	N	T	R	E	A	T		D	R	A	C	H	M	A
N		I		A		E		R		F		A		N
R	E	M	A	R	K	S		E	R	O	T	I	C	A
O		P		T		T		A		R		R		L
U	N	A	S	H	A	M	E	D		T	A	C	K	Y
T		N				A				I		U		S
E	P	O	C	H		T	I	T	F	O	R	T	A	T
				I		C		I		R				
B	O	W	L	E	R	H	A	T		I	N	S	E	T
R		E		R				L				H		R
A	T	S	E	A		C	O	E	N	O	B	I	T	E
C		T		R		O		P		M		H		A
K	N	E	E	C	A	P		A	S	E	P	T	I	C
E		R		H		S		G		G		Z		L
T	I	N	T	Y	P	E		E	V	A	C	U	E	E

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	9	7	1	8	5	3	2	4
1	2	8	4	6	3	5	9	7
4	5	3	9	2	7	6	1	8
3	6	2	5	7	1	4	8	9
7	8	4	6	9	2	1	3	5
9	1	5	3	4	8	2	7	6
8	4	1	2	5	9	7	6	3
5	3	9	7	1	6	8	4	2
2	7	6	8	3	4	9	5	1

FAITH

Rules to follow at a temple

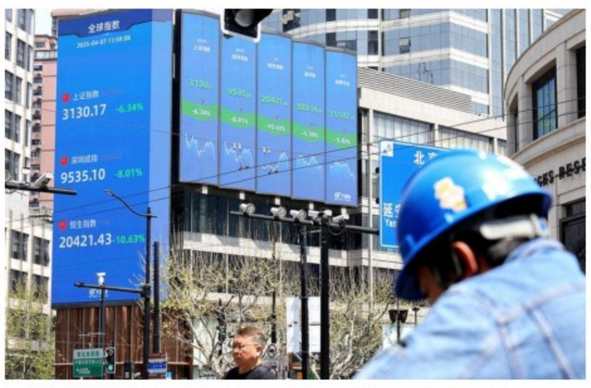
We are told that the *archa* form of Lord Narayana is important and that we should visit temples as often as we can. What are some of the basic rules we should follow when we go to a temple? We should bathe before we go to a temple. However, the word 'bath' means not only bathing the body to get rid of dirt, grime, and dust but also cleaning the mind to get rid of impure thoughts. We should not go to the temple harbouring ill feelings against anyone, explained Velukkudi Krishnan, in a discourse.

Once we reach the temple, we must first prostrate before the *dvajasthamba*. We must then visit the *sannidhis* of the Azhvars Acharyas, Viswaksena, Anjaneya, Garudan, the Goddess of the temple, and finally go to the main sanctum. We must not go to the Lord's sanctum first, before worshipping at the other *sannidhis*. We must not go empty-handed to a temple; we must take flowers, or fruits, or a coconut and some betel leaves. We must not see ourselves as important. Our complaint about having to wait in long queues comes from the feeling that we are important and should not be kept waiting. We must not speak loudly inside a temple. We should keep children from being noisy. When Vyasa was writing his Mahabharata, he found the noise made by the river Saraswathi annoying. So he ordered the river to go underground. The river, which went underground, then emerged only in Prayag, at the Triveni Sangama. We must circumambulate the *sannidhi* at a slow pace. If an Acharya happens to be visiting at the same time when we visit a temple, we must not try to overtake him. We must walk behind him, for when the Acharya receives the Lord's blessings, some of them will come to us too.

'Highest' FPI sell-off signals waning confidence in India

Unless corporate performance improves significantly, foreign investors won't find India attractive for investments, say experts; tepid corporate profitability has more to do than just stock returns

Ashokamithran T.



Brief win: India benefitted from investors leaving China, but this benefit has 'run out', says Morningstar Investment's Coop. REUTERS

Foreign investors have sold ₹1.5 lakh crore worth of Indian stocks as of November 4, 2025, according to NSDL data. Continued selling will make this the largest sell-off in about 20 years.

"India benefitted from investors leaving China, but this benefit has run out," said Mike Coop, Chief Investment Officer, EMEA at Morningstar Investment Management.

"I think India was like the mirror image of China when the latter collapsed, and people thought it was uninvestable. India boomed and benefited from the reshoring from China to India. We have reached the end of that and probably, that's not a great starting point for Indian equities. The valuation level has not been positive as it was," he said.

"On a PE basis, Indian markets have remained expensive relatively to peers in most years [in the past nine years]," said Dhananjay Sinha, CEO and co-head of Institutional Research at Systematix, an Indian financial services firm. Price to earnings (PE) ratio is a measure used to determine if the price of a stock justifies its earnings to the shareholder. "Currently, Indian stocks are trading 22 times their earnings," Mr. Sinha said.

A section of experts though believes that the market is past the stage of expensive valuations and may now be ready for better returns. "Over the last year, returns have been weak in India, whereas returns in many other parts of the world have been much stronger," Pranjul Bhandari, Chief Economist ASEAN, HSBC, said.

"Today, we are seeing our relative valuation actually going back to long term average. It's not looking too rich," she added.

"This is because investors have understood that earnings growth can't be in teens when the nominal gross domestic product (GDP) growth is in single digits. A more realistic expectation may trigger foreign investors to return and an improvement in market returns might be around the corner," Ms. Bhandari said.

Despite divergent views, there is consensus among experts that corporate India's profits must grow at a faster pace. For FPI participation to revive, either corporate earnings growth must quicken to 15-20% or valuations must compress significantly, Mr. Sinha said. "Currently, trailing earnings over the past 4-6 quarters are flattish, while forward expectations for the next two years are only approximately 10-11%; hardly enticing, especially amid visible downside risks," he added.

FDIs trend lower

While FPIs are selling, net foreign direct investments (FDI) also trend lower. Total foreign investment, which includes portfolio and direct investment as a share of gross domestic product (GDP), hit a 25-year low in 2024-25, he said. What makes this more concerning is that, FPIs who invest in India based on their conviction in the economy's long-term growth redeemed for the eighth consecutive week as of October 31, 2025, according to Sunil Jain, V-P of Elara Capital.

A low-performing corporate sector has consequences beyond just the stock market. "Elusive private capital expenditure and slowing household incomes are inter-linked trends that have curtailed private demand and lending growth. These issues, persisting for years and recently intensifying, have been partly offset by government spending on infrastructure and household transfers. Amid intensifying de-globalisation, India's structural growth outlook faces considerable risks," Mr. Sinha reiterated.

Adding credence to his views, the World Bank, in its World Development Report 2024, highlighted the need for sweeping institutional reforms in the absence of which developing economies like India can run the risk of slowing down before it becomes a high income economy, a phenomenon that economists call "The Middle Income Trap."

That being said, conversations about middle income trap happen all over emerging economies in Southeast Asian economies and is not exclusive to India. With policy reforms, India can reduce the risk of structural economic slowdown, Ms. Bhandari asserted.

Agri tech a 'big part' of FTA negotiations with India: McClay

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

Union Minister Piyush Goyal with New Zealand Trade Minister McClay. FILE PHOTO

Agricultural technology sharing and methods to increase output are a "big part" of the negotiations between New Zealand and India on a free trade agreement (FTA), New Zealand's Minister for Trade and Investment Todd McClay said on Wednesday.

India and New Zealand began the fourth round of negotiations towards an FTA on Monday, with the Indian team visiting Auckland until Friday. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal also visited New Zealand on Wednesday to discuss various issues with Mr. McClay.

Speaking to reporters in Auckland along with Mr. Goyal, Mr. McClay said that New Zealand had been innovating over the years and working with its farmers to find ways to produce more and to increase its farmers' incomes.

"Prime Minister [Christopher] Luxon has directed me in our discussions and negotiations to make sure New Zealand does its part to help Prime Minister [Narendra] Modi meet his commitment to increasing the earnings of Indian farmers by 50% by 2030," Mr. McClay said.

"So a lot of the science that we have developed here to help them produce more is available to us in cooperation with India and that's been a big part of our discussion around the negotiation so far," he added.

Negotiations with India regarding agriculture have been tricky as the Indian government has been steadfast in protecting the interests of its farmers.

This has been a speed bump in negotiations with the U.S., European Union, and even the United Kingdom.

'Challenges remain'

"It's fair to say that on both sides, there are always challenges in a trade negotiation," Mr. McClay acknowledged.

"What Minister [Piyush] Goyal and I have agreed is that rather than our negotiators arguing, we will find solutions together. And so far, I think we've made great progress."

Neither Minister was forthcoming about a deadline by which the deal would be finalised.

"I don't think we ever discuss deadlines," Mr. Goyal said.

"There never has been a timeframe for any free trade agreement that we have negotiated," Mr. Goyal asserted.

INBRIEF

Nvidia among investors to join India Deep Tech Alliance

Nvidia on Wednesday joined Indian and U.S. investors backing the South Asian country's deep-tech startups as the group added new members and secured more than $850 million in capital commitments to close a big funding gap. Qualcomm Ventures and Kalaari Capital are among the new investors joining the Alliance. It was launched in September with a $1 billion initial commitment to support companies in industries such as space, AI and robotics. REUTERS

Aurobindo Pharma Q2 net profit rises 4% to ₹848 crore

Aurobindo Pharma reported Q2 consolidated net profit rose nearly 4% to ₹848 crore compared with ₹817 crore a year earlier aided by higher formulations revenue. The net profit came on a more than 6% increase in revenue from operations to ₹8,286 crore (₹7,796 crore). "Q2 has been another steady quarter for Aurobindo, demonstrating resilience of our base business and the depth of product portfolio," said Vice-chairman and MD K.Nithyananda Reddy.

Grasim Industries Q2 PAT surges 76% to ₹553 crore

Grasim Industries Ltd., a part of the Aditya Birla Group, reported a 76% year-on-year (YoY) growth in Q2 consolidated net profit to ₹553 crore. Consolidated revenue rose 17% to ₹39,900 crore, largely driven by growth in Building Materials and Chemicals businesses. Standalone revenue rose 26% to ₹9,610 crore, led by growth from new businesses: Paints and B2B E-commerce coupled with stable core businesses: Cellulosic Fibres and Chemicals, the company said.

In a 'workforce review,' IBM to lay off thousands globally; may hit hundreds in India

Sanjana B
BENGALURU

IBM website lists up to 2,468 job openings across India.

IBM on Tuesday announced layoffs potentially impacting thousands globally, though the firm said it would affect a low single-digit percentage.

Sources told *businessline* India is likely to be among impacted regions.

No significant impact

The country accounts for 30-35% of IBM's global workforce of more than 2,70,000, making it one of the firm's largest employee bases. Sources said India would be affected by the layoffs, though the impact is not expected to be as significant as in markets such as the U.S., given its lower-cost base. A few hundred people are likely to be impacted in India.

"We routinely review our workforce... and at times rebalance accordingly," the company said.

The layoffs come amid a broader global tech slowdown.

While IBM has not explicitly attributed this decision to AI, many of its peers have let go of thousands of staff this year as they pivoted to AI-led efficiency and automation. This includes Oracle, Meta, Microsoft, Intel and also Indian IT firms like TCS.

However, IBM's website currently lists up to 2,468 job openings across India.

In Q3 2025, IBM reported $16.3 billion revenue, up 7% in constant currency terms with gross profit rising 11% to $9.4 billion.

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

Will run AI queries on Indian data centres: Microsoft

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Microsoft said it would give its productivity suite's customers in India to have AI work processed within the country itself starting by the end of 2025.

The firm said "in-country data processing for customers' Microsoft 365 Copilot interactions [would be] available in 15 countries around the world," with India, Australia, Japan and the United Kingdom getting the option by the end of the year.

The announcement is a tonal shift from large tech firms' resistance over the last few years against proposed data localisation mandates, such as India's in 2018. Since then, Microsoft and other firms have dramatically increased their data centre footprint around the world, with India seeing a surge of investments, and as regulated industries – such as finance – have been required to keep data within Indian borders, data residency has turned from cumbersome requirement to a sweetener for cloud and data centre providers.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY
E-TENDER NOTICE
KWA-SEWC/KCHI/56/2025-DB2 Date : 04.11.2025
E-Tender No. 04/2025-26/SE/PPD/KCH
AMRUT.2.0-Design, Construction, Commissioning, Trial Running, Operation and Maintenance (for a period of 5 years) of 5 MLD STP at Alissery in Alappuzha District along with Design, Construction, Testing and Commissioning of 11.87 km Sewage Collection Network in Ward No.34 and 35 of Alappuzha Municipality and allied works. Details of the tender will be published in the website https://www.etenders.kerala.gov.in. Cost of Tender form: Rs. 19,518/- (inclusive of GST), EMD: Rs. 5,00,000/-, Date and time of Opening Tender: 11/12/2025 3.30 pm, Last date of receipt of tender: 10/12/2025 3.00 pm, Phone:8547638502, E-mail- seppdregionkochi@gmail.com
Sd/-, Superintending Engineer, PPDIU & Sewerage Circle, KWA, Kochi - 11

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of West Bengal Enterprise)
WBSETCL
Registered Office: Vidyut Bhavan, Block-DJ, Sector-II, Bidhannagar, Kolkata-700 091
CIN: U40101WB2007SGC113474 • web: www.wbsetcl.in
NIT No.: CE/CTD/WBSETCL/Procurement/25-26/06 Date: 06.11.2025
E-Tender is invited for procurement of DC Regulatory Source along with associated items as per technical specification. Bid documents can be downloaded from **06.11.2025, 06:00 P.M.** and bids shall be submitted (online) up to **03:00 P.M., 05.12.2025.**
Visit the following websites - www.wbtenders.gov.in, www.wbsetcl.in for details.
ICA- T22185(3)/2025

KSEB KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED - E TENDER NOTICE
O/o the Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Manjeri, Malappuram
E Tender ID No.2025_KSEB_815130_1 PAC: Rs. 9,09,61,709/-, Last Date: 21.11.2025 05.00 pm
E Tender ID No.2025_KSEB_818175_1 PAC: Rs. 8,34,88,165/-, Last Date: 22.11.2025 05.00 pm
E Tender ID No.2025_KSEB_817921_1 PAC: Rs. 20,05,67,660/-, Last Date: 22.11.2025 05.00 pm
E Tender ID No.2025_KSEB_817919_1 PAC: Rs. 9,46,59,547/-, Last Date: 22.11.2025 05.00 pm
O/o the Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Tirur, Malappuram
E Tender ID No.2025_KSEB_817773_1 PAC:Rs. 43,48,14,618/-, Last Date: 24.11.2025 05.00 pm
Visit www.etenders.kerala.gov.in and www.kseb.in, Ref : PR/MC1/E587/E-tender/2025

NATIONAL BOARD OF EXAMINATIONS IN MEDICAL SCIENCES
(Autonomous body of the M/o. Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India)
NAMS Building, Medical Enclave, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi – 110029
NBEMS DIPLOMA FINAL THEORY EXAMINATION – DECEMBER 2025
NOTICE
National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS) shall conduct the NBEMS Diploma Final Theory Examinations on **06th, 07th and 08th January 2026.**
The online applications are being invited from **06th (03:00 PM onwards) to 26th November 2025 (Till 11:55 PM)** at NBEMS website
https://natboard.edu.in/viewnbeexam?exam=diploma
Candidate Care Support : +91-7996165333
• Helpline Portal on applicant login page
• Communication Web Portal on NBEMS Website

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
NABARD & Rural Roads Circle, Chengalpattu
SHORT TENDER NOTICE
Short Tender Notice No. 35 / 2025-2026/ SDO / Dt.04.11.2025.
For and on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu Percentage **Tender through online only** will be received upto **25.11.2025, 12.00** hours by the **Superintending Engineer(H) NABARD & Rural Roads, Chengalpattu Circle for One** road work in respect of **Cuddalore(H)** NABARD & Rural Roads Division under **Upgradation of Panchayat Union roads and Panchayat Roads to ODR Standards.**
Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, tender documents and all other details are available from **07.11.2025** onwards in the Government website **https://tntenders.gov.in**. If any Changes / Corrections / Amendments etc to the tender, it will be published on the above Government website only.
Superintending Engineer(H) NABARD & Rural Roads Circle, Chengalpattu-1
DIPR/ 5986 /TENDER/2025

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
THANJAVUR (H), CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE CIRCLE
TENDER NOTICE
T. N.No. 40/2025-26 / HDO/DATED:31.10.2025
For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, **Percentage tender through online under Two Cover System** will be received up to **10.12.2025, 11.30** hours (server time) by the Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Thanjavur Circle for **CMRDP 2025-26** One work **(TNJ-103) Pertaining to Thiruvarur (H) C&M Division.**
Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD (EMD through online payment Gateway of the Portal only) availability of tender document and all other details are available from **07.11.2025** onwards in the Government website **https://tntenders.gov.in.** If any Changes / Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only
Superintending Engineer (H), C&M Circle, Thanjavur.
DIPR/5971/Tender/2025

Sun Pharma Q2 net rises 2.6% to ₹3,118 cr.

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Consolidated sales income grew 8.6% to ₹14,405 crore.

Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd, for the second quarter ended September 30, reported a 2.6% growth in consolidated net profit to ₹3,118 crore.

Consolidated sales income for the quarter grew 8.6% year-on-year (YoY) to ₹14,405 crore.

Kirti Ganorkar, managing director, said, "India, emerging markets and rest of world led our growth for the period.

"U.S. sales of innovative medicines have surpassed generics for the first time during the quarter."

"We remain focused on broadening our portfolio while strengthening in-house talent pool and execution capability," he added

Formulation sales in India were ₹4,735 crore, up 11%. India formulation sales accounted for 32.9% of the total consolidated sales for the quarter

City Union Bank Q2 net profit rises 15% to ₹329 cr.

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

City Union Bank reported a 15% rise in net profit to ₹329 crore for the second quarter ended September 30. Total income also increased to ₹1,912 crore from ₹1,660 crore in the same period of the previous fiscal, City Union Bank said in a filing.

Interest income improved to ₹1,653 crore (₹1,434 crore). Gross non-performing assets (NPAs) eased to 2.42% of gross advances from 3.54%. Net NPAs or bad loans came down to 0.9% compared with 1.62% a year ago.

BORDEAUX

Man rams car into pedestrians in France, wounding 10: prosecutor

REUTERS

A 35-year-old man from Oleron on Wednesday deliberately rammed his car into pedestrians and cyclists on the French island, injuring 10 people, four seriously. Police subdued him with a taser as he tried to set his car on fire. When arrested, the man cried "God is the greatest" in Arabic, the prosecutor said. AFP

PORT SUDAN

Funeral attack on city in Sudan's Kordofan region kills 40, says UN

AFP

A funeral attack in El-Obeid, North Kordofan, killed 40 people, the UN said on Wednesday, as Sudan's conflict deepens. The paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF), at war with the military since 2023, was preparing to launch an assault in Kordofan after capturing El Fasher, the last army stronghold in Darfur region. AFP

LAHORE

Army chief Munir 'most oppressive dictator' in Pak.'s history, says Imran

AP

Imran Khan, jailed former Pakistan Prime Minister, called Army chief Asim Munir the "most oppressive dictator" in the country's history and a "mentally unstable" man. He accused the Army chief of tyranny, citing May 9 and Muridke crackdowns. He said his wife is kept in solitary confinement merely to put pressure on him. PTI

WASHINGTON

At least 9 dead after UPS cargo plane crashes near U.S. airport

AP

A UPS cargo plane on Tuesday crashed and exploded after take-off from Louisville International Airport in U.S., killing at least nine and injuring several. The MD-11 aircraft was bound for Hawaii. The cause of the crash is under investigation by the FAA and the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). AFP

Democrats win major elections in early test of Trump's second term

Democrats cruised to comfortable victories in the Virginia and New Jersey Governors' elections; Pennsylvanians picked new state Supreme Court Justices while California voted for Proposition 50, the plan to redraw congressional districts

Agence France-Presse
Press Trust of India
WASHINGTON/NEW YORK

Turning the tide: New Jersey Democratic Governor-elect Mikie Sherrill and Lt. Gov.-elect Dale Caldwell celebrate on Tuesday. AP

Moderate Democrats Abigail Spanberger and Mikie Sherrill cruised to comfortable victories in the Virginia and New Jersey Governors' elections on Tuesday, on an election night seen as a referendum on Donald Trump's second presidential term.

Pitting centrist Democrats against Trump-aligned Republicans, both elections were seen as signalling whether middle-of-the-road voters had made peace with the President's radical cost-slashing agenda – or plan to give his party a bloody nose in 2026.

Mr. Trump has driven a steamroller through the federal bureaucracy since returning to office in January, shuttering entire agencies and cutting an estimated 200,000 jobs even before the government shutdown. Ms. Spanberger's win in Virginia – which is second only to California in the size of its federal workforce – was no surprise, as polls had shown her holding a steady lead of seven to 12 points throughout the campaign.

The former CIA officer and three-term congresswoman was projected to beat Republican Lieutenant Governor Winsome Earle-Sears, a Marine veteran and staunch Trump ally, by a comfortable margin that makes her Virginia's first-ever female Governor.

In New Jersey, Democratic former Navy pilot Mikie Sherrill was also seen as the favourite, although she was locked in a closer battle with Republican businessman Jack Ciattarelli. On a pivotal day in US democracy, with elections at various levels of government taking place across the country, Pennsylvanians were picking new state supreme court justices while California was delivering its verdict on redistricting measure Proposition 50.

California Governor Gavin Newsom spearheaded the plan to redraw congressional districts in response to Mr. Trump pressuring Texas into a rare and contentious mid-decade redistricting. The Texas move, aimed at yielding five more Republican seats in the closely divided U.S. Congress, would likely be cancelled out by approval for Proposition 50 in left-leaning California.

China extends suspension of extra tariffs on U.S. goods

Agence France-Presse
BEIJING

Xi Jinping

China said on Wednesday it would extend a suspension of additional tariffs on U.S. goods for one year, making official an agreement reached in talks between Presidents Xi Jinping and Donald Trump last week.

The two leaders held talks in South Korea at the end of October that effectively prolonged a delicate truce for a year, after several rounds of trade negotiations in recent months.

A statement published on Wednesday on the Ministry of Finance website, citing Beijing's State Council, said that "for one year the 24% tariff on U.S. goods will continue to be suspended, (and) a 10% tariff on U.S. goods will remain".

The statement said the pause follows "the consensus reached in the China-U.S. economic and trade consultations" and would be effective from November 10.

Mr. Trump on Tuesday formalised an agreement that Washington would cut its additional tariffs on Chinese imports from 20% to 10%, also effective from November 10.

Temperatures have spiked between the world's two biggest economies this year as Washington and Beijing imposed escalating tariffs on each other's products.

At one point, duties on both sides reached prohibitive triple-digit levels, hampering trade.

The two have been engaged in an uneasy truce since, as top economic leaders met several times for talks in recent months, with tensions surging over export controls and other issues.

Beyond the statement covering the blanket tariffs, China also published several statements on Wednesday suspending related measures hitting different sectors.

That move was a response to Mr. Trump doubling additional tariffs on Chinese goods over Beijing's handling of fentanyl – now back to 10%.

'Ukrainian troops in Pokrovsk, Kupiansk should surrender'

Reuters
MOSCOW

Russia said on Wednesday that Ukrainian troops in the battered cities of Pokrovsk and Kupiansk were encircled and should surrender, as they had no chance of survival otherwise.

Russia has been trying to capture Pokrovsk, dubbed "the gateway to Donetsk", since 2024 as part of an attempt to take the entirety of the Donbas region, of which Ukrainian forces still control about 10%, or 5,000 sq. km.

In a break with the frontal assaults which Russian forces used against other cities, Russia has used pincer movements to almost encircle Ukrainian forces in both Pokrovsk and Kupiansk while small highly-mobile units and drones disrupted logistics and sowed chaos behind Ukrainian lines.

Russia's military says it now controls more than 19% of Ukraine, or some 1,16,000 sq. km.

Nepal's 10 left parties merge to form single party ahead of general elections

Press Trust of India
KATHMANDU

Ten left parties, including the CPN (Maoist Centre) and the CPN (Unified Socialist), on Wednesday merged to form the Nepali Communist Party, months ahead of the general elections scheduled for March 5.

The unification announcement was made at a mass gathering at Bhrikutimandap here.

With the merger, the Maoist Centre, which led the decade-long insurgency, has dropped the term "Maoist" from its official name.

Ahead of the formal unification ceremony, a grand procession was held. The alliance has been formed against the backdrop of the recent youth-led Gen Z protests against corruption, nepotism and political disorder.

The unified party will be called the Nepali Communist Party, with a five-pointed star as its election symbol.

The party will be called the Nepali Communist Party, with a five-pointed star as its symbol

CPN (Maoist Centre) chairperson and former Prime Minister Pushpakamal Dahal 'Prachanda' will act as coordinator of the new party, while CPN (Unified Socialist) chief Madhav Kumar Nepal will serve as co-coordinator.

The party will follow Marxism-Leninism as its guiding ideology and convene its national convention within six months.

"This day, Nov. 5, 2025, has been registered as an important historic day for the Nepalese communist movement. Today, not one or two, but ten communist parties have been united to form a grand organisation with the name 'Nepali Communist Party'," Mr. Prachanda said, addressing the unity conference.

Mr. Prachanda also expressed gratitude to the Gen-Z youth for opening the eyes of political parties and highlighting their weaknesses by voicing against corruption.

The CPN-UML did not join the unification process.

Dhaka offers reward for return of stolen guns before elections

Agence France-Presse
DHAKA

Bangladesh announced on Wednesday a new cash reward programme encouraging the surrender of machine guns, rifles, and pistols looted during an uprising last year, in an effort to recover hundreds of weapons ahead of crucial elections.

An estimated 6,000 firearms were stolen from police armouries during the deadly August 2024 unrest that toppled the hardline rule of then-Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. More than 1,300 are still reported as missing, police spokesperson AHM Shahadat Hossaine said.

Police issued a list of rewards for their return, ranging from just over $4,000 for a light machine gun to $800 for an assault rifle, and $400 for a shotgun or pistol. Cash will also be given for ammunition.

"Bangladesh Police guarantee full confidentiality," Mr. Hossaine said, urging people to hand them in.

Sport

Liverpool and Bayern claim statement victories

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Associated Press
LONDON

Get in: Mac Allister heads in Liverpool's winner over Real Madrid. REUTERS

Bayern Munich and Liverpool won the blockbuster match-ups in the Champions League. Micky van de Ven might have already scored the competition's goal of the season.

With a 2-1 win against defending champion Paris Saint-Germain, Bayern made it 16 straight victories in all competitions to underline its status as perhaps the new leading force in European football.

Real Madrid came unstuck at Anfield for the second straight season, losing 0-1 to Liverpool as Trent Alexander-Arnold – jeered on his every touch – endured a miserable return to his long-time former club. Midway through the fourth round of league-stage games, only Bayern and Arsenal are on a maximum 12 points. Arsenal swept to a 3-0 win at Slavia Prague, bringing 15-year-old Max Dowman off the bench to make him the youngest player in Champions League history.

The moment of the night fell to Van de Ven, the lanky Tottenham defender who set off on a mazy, 90-metre run from the edge of his own area to score the team's third goal in a 4-0 win over FC Copenhagen.

At Anfield, Madrid goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois produced save after save to defy Liverpool but was finally beaten by Alexis Mac Allister's header off a free-kick in the 61st minute.

The results: Napoli 0 drew with Eintracht Frankfurt 0; Slavia Prague 0 lost to Arsenal 3 (Saka 32-pen, Merino 46, 68). Atletico Madrid 3 (Alvarez 39, Gallagher 72, Llorente 90+6) bt Union Saint-Gilloise 1 (Sykes 80). Bodo/ Glimt 0 lost to Monaco 1 (Balogun 43); Juventus 1 (Vlahovic 34) drew with Sporting Lisbon 1 (Araujo 12); Liverpool 1 (Mac Allister 61) bt Real Madrid 0. Olympiacos 1 (Martins 17) drew with PSV 1 (Pepi 90+3); PSG 1 (Neves 74) lost to Bayern Munich 2 (Diaz 4, 32); Tottenham 4 (Johnson 19, Odobert 51, van de ven 64, Palhinha 67) bt Copenhagen 0.

Punjab FC knocks out Bengaluru FC on penalties

SUPER CUP

Neeladri Bhattacharjee
MARGAO

It was Inter Kashi last season, and this time, it was Punjab. The penalty shootout continued to be Bengaluru FC's Achilles heel in the Super Cup as it lost 4-5 in the tie-break to get knocked out of the AIFF Super Cup, at the PJN Stadium here on Wednesday.

BFC star Ryan Williams' penalty was saved while Vinit Rai converted the decisive kick for the Shers, taking them into the semifinals.

Punjab began as the better side in attack, but its new forward Nsungusi Effiong's poor finishing in his first start saw his side miss out on three clear chances to break the deadlock.

Bengaluru's reply came in the 35th minute when Braian Sanchez's cross, after a deflection off Muhammed Uvais, almost got into the net when Muheet Shabir palmed it out. Five minutes later, Chinglensana Singh headed Vinith Venkatesh's corner over the net.

Ten minutes later, Bengaluru had the same agonising outcome: Williams' through ball found Ashique Kuruniyan on the left, whose low cross was struck just off-target by Sunil Chhetri.

With the score 0-0 at the end of regulation time, Rahul Bheke almost headed a winner from a free-kick in stoppage time. However, a deciding strike eluded the contest, taking it to a penalty shootout, where Vinit won it for Punjab.

Dilmperis' side will face East Bengal in the semifinal.

Earlier, Gokulam Kerala ended its Super Cup campaign on a high with a 3-0 win over Mohammedan Sporting at the GMC Athletic Stadium in Bambolim. Albert Torras opened the scoring for the Malabarians before Samuel Kynshi and Juan Carlos Rico Azorín put the competition to bed in the second half.

The results: Gokulam Kerala 3 (Torras 28, Kynshi 56, Azorin 86) bt Mohammedan Sporting 0. Bengaluru FC 0 drew with Punjab FC 0; *Punjab won 5-4 on penalties.*

BEST FOOT FORWARD

Work hard and be ready when the opportunity arises: Morkel

FILE PHOTO: ANI

With only 10 T20Is to go after the series against Australia, India's bowling coach Morne Morkel and the coaching staff's only advice to players is to put their best foot forward in pressure situations "For us, from our side, we just keep on asking them to work hard and be ready for when they do get the opportunity," Morkel said.

TEAM MAN

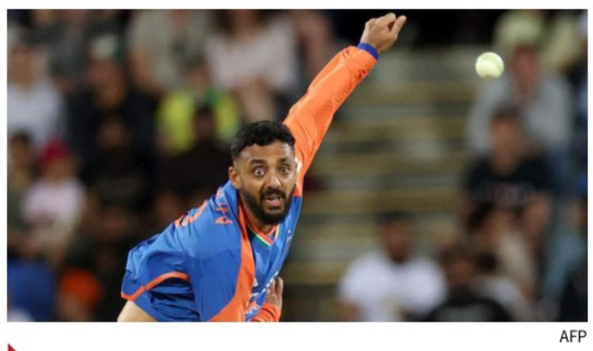
'Arshdeep knows that we are looking at the bigger picture'

AP

Arshdeep is experienced, and he knows that we are looking at the bigger picture and trying out different combinations. He knows he is a world-class bowler and has taken most wickets in the PowerPlay. We know how valuable he is to the team, but we also needed to look at other combinations — India bowling coach Morne Morkel.

BIG CHALLENGE

'Varun has been hard to figure out, but we are trying to decipher him'



AFP

Australia batter Matthew Short conceded that India spinner Varun Chakaravarthy has been hard to figure out but the team is doing all it can to decipher him before next year's T20 World Cup. "We've obviously watched a lot of footage and what not. But, yeah, that's probably going to be the other challenge heading to India."

TOP TALENT

Watson backs Gill to make adjustments to navigate formats

AP

Shubman Gill is "ridiculously talented" and he should be able to make adjustments while navigating his way through the different formats and score big runs for India, feels former Australia all-rounder Shane Watson. "But Gill is a ridiculously talented batter. He's got an amazing technique," Watson said of Gill.

Inspired Diptayan stuns Nepomniachtchi; So loses

The little-known Indian enters third round, terms it the best victory of his career; Stremavicius shocks the fifth-seeded American; star attractions Gukesh and Arjun enter the next round

CHESS WORLD CUP

P.K. Ajith Kumar
ARPORA (GOA)

Big scalp: Diptayan got the better of Nepomniachtchi with black pieces. P.K. AJITH KUMAR

It is only the second round, and the chess World Cup has already hotted up.

On a dramatic Wednesday evening at Resort Rio here, two seeds were knocked out. One of those giant-killers was an Indian. Diptayan Ghosh stunned 12th-seeded Russian Ian Nepomniachtchi with black pieces to secure a place in the third round. The Kolkatan had drawn the round's first game and won the match 1.5-0.5.

That was also the score by which Titas Stremavicius of Lithuania shocked the fifth-seeded American Wesley So. The top two seeds, D. Gukesh and Arjun Erigaisi, however, advanced. Gukesh bounced back to form, with black pieces, against Kazakhstan's Kazybek Nogerbek, who had held him to a draw in the opening game. Arjun posted his second win against Bulgarian Martin Petrov for a 2-0 score.

P. Harikrishna, who beat Arseniy Nesterov of Russia (1.5-0.5), Karthik Venkataraman, who overcame the much higher-rated Aravindh Chithambaram in an all-Indian battle, have also entered the third round, where five from the host have assured their places.

Eight Indians will play in Thursday's tie-breakers – third seed R. Praggnanandhaa, Vidit Gujrathi, Nihal Sarin, V. Pranav, S.L. Narayanan, M. Pranesh, Karthikeyan Murali and Raunak Sadhwani.

The day also saw the end of the campaigns for Surya Shekhar Ganguly, Aronyak Ghosh and Pa. Iniyan. But Diptayan ensured there was much to cheer about for India.

"To beat a player like Nepomniachtchi, who has been a challenger for the World title, was great," he said. "It is the best win of my career."

Important results (second round):

Kazybek Nogerbek (Kaz) 0.5 lost to D. Gukesh 1.5; Arjun Erigaisi 2 bt Martin Petrov (Bul) 0; Temur Kuybokarov (Aus) 1 drew with R. Praggnanandhaa 1; Anish Giri (Ned) 1.5 bt Bojan Maksimovic (Bih) 0.5; Titas Stremavicius (Lit) 1.5 bt Wesley So (USA) 0.5; Grergely Kantor (Hun) 1 bt Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (Aze) 1; Nodirbek Abdusattorov (Uzb) Dennis Makhnev (Kaz); Vincent Keymer (Ger) 2 bt Vladislav Kovalev (Blr) 0; Kacper Piorun (Pol) 0 lost to Wei Yi (Chn) 2; Hans Niemann (USA) 1 drew with Lorenzo Lodici (Ita) 1; Surya Shekhar Ganguly 0 lost to Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (Fra) 2. Richard Rapport (Hun) 2 bt Lorenzo Luis Supi (Bra) 0; Baadur Jobava (Geo) lost to Le Quang Liem (Vie)); Aronyak Ghosh 0.5 drew with Levon Aronian (USA) 1.5; Lorenzo Lodici (Ita) 1 drew with Hans Niemann (USA) 1; Ian Nepomniachtchi 0.5 (Rus) lost to Diptayan Ghosh 1.5; Faustino Oro (Arg) 1 drew with Vidit Gujrathi 1; Aravindh Chithambaram 0.5 lost to Karthik Venkataraman 1.5.

Nihal Sarin 1 drew with Stamatis Kourkoulos-Arditis (Gre) 1.

V. Pranav 1 lost to Aryan Tari (Nor) 1; P. Harikrishna 1.5 bt Arseniy Nesterov (Rus) 0.5.

M. Pranesh 1 drew with Dmitrij Kollars (Ger) 1; Pa. Iniyan 0.5 lost to Thai Dai Van Nguyen (Cze) 1.5. Karthikeyan Murali 1 drew with Pouya Idani (Ira) 1; Raunak Sadhwani 1 drew with Robert Hovhannisyan (Arm) 1.

Opener Gill eyes return to form as Men in Blue chase series lead

INDIA IN AUSTRALIA

Press Trust of India
CARRARA (GOLD COAST)

Need to fire: Gill's modest returns are a concern for the Indian team. AP

Shubman Gill will be looking to turn the tables with a big knock after what has been an underwhelming tour when a confident India aims to secure the series lead against a depleted Australia in the fourth T20 International here on Thursday.

The series is locked at 1-1 after three games and the absence of Josh Hazlewood in the previous game did make a difference to Australia's defence of a total of 186. Going into the fourth game, there won't be any Travis Head for Australia as the opener is set to play Sheffield Shield to prepare for the Ashes.

With two pillars of the rival team unavailable, this is the best chance for India to go 2-1 up.

In the last game, India finally did look to get their combination right within their ambit of having an all-rounder at No. 8.

However, what will slightly bother the Indian team management is Shubman Gill's form in the series as he has now played six games without a half-century.

The sequence of scores since the start of the ODI series reads 10, 9, 24, 37 not out, 5, and 15. The only time he looked in good nick was at Canberra when he stitched a nice little stand with skipper Suryakumar Yadav.

At the other end, Abhishek Sharma has done his reputation no harm as the world's No. 1 T20 batter with a fine half-century and two quick starts in the series. Skipper Suryakumar Yadav has shown some glimpses of his vintage self in the first and third matches with good starts. But he would also like to get some runs under the belt now that there will be a month-long break before the next series against South Africa.

The bowling department, with the inclusion of Arshdeep Singh, looks way more compact even as Kuldeep Yadav has been sent back to prepare for the Test series against the Proteas.

The team management's main issue has always been that both Kuldeep and Arshdeep can't be played together.

If Kuldeep plays in these conditions, then Harshit Rana, with better batting skills, needs to be fitted in.

When Arshdeep plays, they have to somehow get a Washington Sundar inducted and one saw the result as his 23-ball 49 decisively swung the third game in favour of India.

The Australian side will depend a lot on skipper Mitchell Marsh and Tim David for the firepower in batting. However, it is the bowling department where Australia need to do some rejigging as Sean Abbott certainly didn't look the part and one among Ben Dwarshuis or Mahli Beardman might come in in his place.

The teams (from): Australia: Mitchell Marsh (Capt.), Matthew Short, Josh Inglis (wk), Josh Phillippe (wk), Mitchell Owen, Glenn Maxwell, Matt Kuhnemann, Adam Zampa, Mahli Beardman, Benn Dwarshuis,Xavier Bartlett, Nathan Ellis, Marcus Stoinis.

India: Suryakumar Yadav (Capt.), Abhishek Sharma, Shubman Gill (Vice-capt.), Tilak Varma, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Shivam Dube, Axar Patel, Jitesh Sharma (wk), Varun Chakaravarthy, Jasprit Bumrah, Arshdeep Singh, Harshit Rana, Sanju Samson (wk), Rinku Singh, Washington Sundar.

Match starts at 1:45 p.m.

Evergreen Adams keeps turning the clock back

P.K. Ajith Kumar
ARPORA (GOA)

Going strong: Adams remains as competitive as ever. FIDE

Back in 1998, Viswanathan Anand and Michael Adams contested the match that would decide the challenger for Anatoly Karpov in the FIDE World chess championship. The Indian was the winner, in sudden death.

Both the men are here – Anand as FIDE's deputy president and Adams as a player.

The Englishman, in fact, moved into the second round of the Word Cup.

He is a former World No. 4, and in 2004 came close to becoming the World champion before losing to Rustam Kasimdzanov in the final, which was decided in tie-breakers. He is 53 now, and is ranked No. 90 in the world.

Last World Cup

"I guess this would almost certainly be my last World Cup," Adams told the *The Hindu* after scoring his second win in as many days over Ahmed Abdullah Alrehaili.

"Never say never, but so it was really just a question if I wanted to try one more time." Adams, who turned the clock in style to win the London Chess Classic two years ago ahead of the likes of D. Gukesh, is glad that there is more chess activity back home.

"It was when practically everything was shut down during the (COVID-19) pandemic that I decided I wanted to play a lot and try and do a few more years."

> I think there is too much publicity for cheating and is very bad for chess: 99.99% of players are very honest

Adams is glad that he took that decision. Apart from the London Classic, he also won the World senior (over-50) championship in 2023.

Adams is saddened by the tragic death of Daniel Naroditsky.

"It is just totally shocking and horrible," he said.

"You can't make accusations against people publicly.

"I think there is too much publicity for cheating and is very bad for chess: 99.99% of players are very honest in a game where everyone has the capacity to cheat.

"And yet there is such a big fuss."

Rybakina sails into the last-four stage

WTA FINALS

Agence France-Presse
RIYADH

Elena Rybakina maintained her undefeated record at the WTA Finals with a 6-4, 6-4 victory over Russian alternate Ekaterina Alexandrova in Riyadh on Wednesday.

Later, Amanda Anisimova, the fourth seed, rallied to beat World No. 2 Iga Swiatek 6-7(3), 6-4, 6-2 to secure a spot in the semifinals.

The Kazakh World No. 6 extended her current winning streak to nine, and will face one of Aryna Sabalenka, Jessica Pegula or Coco Gauff in Friday's semifinals.

Alexandrova was brought in as a replacement for American Madison Keys, who withdrew ahead of the match due to a viral illness.

The Australian Open champion suffered two defeats in round-robin play this week, to Swiatek and compatriot Anisimova, and had no chance of advancing to the knockout stage.

Pant back in India squad for SA Tests

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Pant. K. MURALI KUMAR

Wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant made an expected return to the India Test roster as he was named in the squad that will take on the visiting South African side in the two-match series starting in Kolkata on November 14.

Pant, who had injured his foot in the fourth Test against England in Manchester this summer, had made a successful return to fitness last week when he led India-A to a three-wicket victory over South Africa-A at the BCCI Centre of Excellence near here.

The 28-year-old was also given back his vice-captaincy responsibilities, which star all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja had taken up in his absence. Apart from Pant replacing N. Jagadeesan in the party that competed against the West Indies last month, the only other change is the entry of the fit-again pacer Akash Deep in place of Prasidh Krishna.

The selectors, on Wednesday, also chose Tilak Varma as the India-A skipper for the three one-day matches against South Africa-A to be held in Rajkot on November 13, 16 and 19.

The squads: Test: Shubman Gill (Capt.), Rishabh Pant (Vice-capt., wk), Yashasvi Jaiswal, K.L. Rahul, B. Sai Sudharsan, Devdutt Padikkal, Dhruv Jurel, Ravindra Jadeja, Washington Sundar, Jasprit Bumrah, Axar Patel, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Mohammed Siraj, Kuldeep Yadav & Akash Deep.
The schedule: First: Kolkata, Nov. 14 to 18; **Second:** Guwahati, Nov. 22 to 26.
India-A (three one-dayers): Tilak Varma (capt.), Ruturaj Gaikwad (Vice-capt.), Abhishek Sharma, Riyan Parag, Ishan Kishan (wk), Ayush Badoni, Nishant Sindhu, Vipraj Nigam, Manav Suthar, Harshit Rana, Arshdeep Singh, Prasidh Krishna, Khaleel Ahmed & Prabhsimran Singh (wk).

RCB ownership may change hands; USL to review investment

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

> RCSPL has been a valuable and strategic asset for USL; however, it's non-core to our alcobev business
> **PRAVEEN SOMESHWAR**
> Managing Director & CEO, USL

United Spirits Ltd. (USL), the Indian arm of London-based Diageo, is initiating a strategic review of investment in its wholly owned subsidiary, Royal Challengers Sports Pvt. Ltd. (RCSPL), the company that owns the Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB), the firm said in a regulatory filing on Wednesday.

Praveen Someshwar, Managing Director & CEO, USL said: "RCSPL has been a valuable and strategic asset for USL; however, it's non-core to our alcobev business."

"This step would reinforce USL's & Diageo's commitment to continue reviewing its India enterprise portfolio to enable sustained delivery of long-term value to all its stakeholders, while keeping RCSPL's best interest in mind," Someshwar added.

According to the statutory document, RCSPL's business comprises ownership of both the men's and women's RCB teams, which compete in the Indian Premier League and Women's Premier League, respectively. While the men's team won the IPL title this year, the women were crowned champions in 2024.

Speculation

Speculation that RCB would be up for sale has been rife since the June 4 stampede outside the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium that killed 11 people during the franchise's title-winning celebrations.

USL's strategic review process is expected to conclude by March 31, 2026.

INBRIEF

Santner's brilliance in vain as NZ loses to WI

A brilliant bowling performance secured the West Indies an unlikely seven-run win in the first T20I against New Zealand on Wednesday, despite a stunning solo effort from Mitchell Santner.

The scores: West Indies 164/6 in 20 overs (Hope 53) bt New Zealand 157/9 in 20 overs (Santner 55 n.o, Seales 3/32, Chase 3/26). **Toss:** New Zealand; **PoM:** Chase.

Weatherald in Australia's squad for first Ashes Test

Uncapped opener Jake Weatherald was named on Wednesday in Australia's squad for the first Ashes Test (in Perth from Nov. 21), with Brendan Doggett and Sean Abbott included as back-up fast bowlers. While Weatherald was included in the 15-man squad, chief selector George Bailey refused to confirm whether he would make his debut in Perth. Steve Smith will be the captain in the absence of Pat Cummins, who has not played since a lower back injury against West Indies more than three months ago.

The squad: Steve Smith (Capt.), Sean Abbott, Scott Boland, Alex Carey, Brendan Doggett, Cameron Green, Josh Hazlewood, Travis Head, Josh Inglis, Usman Khawaja, Marnus Labuschagne, Nathan Lyon, Mitchell Starc, Jake Weatherald, Beau Webster.

Dev Aditya and Painkra shine in Chhattisgarh's big win

Dev Aditya Singh (4/32) and Prashant Sai Painkra (4/39) helped Chhattisgarh bowl out Karnataka for 122 in 41.5 overs in its second innings and register a thumping 242-run victory on the final day of the under-23 Col. C.K. Nayudu Trophy Elite match in Mysuru on Wednesday.

The scores: Chhattisgarh 303 in 83 overs & 273/7 decl. in 94.5 overs bt Karnataka 212 in 79.1 overs & 122 in 41.5 overs (Faizan Khan 34, Dev Aditya Singh 4/32, Prashant Sai Painkra 4/39).

India-A brings in the big guns for second 'Test' against South Africa-A

The match looks like a main event in itself, with the host's roster boasting eight players from the squad that will meet the Proteas in the two-Test series

INDIA-A VS SA-A

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

The 'A' tours that countries embark on are like shadow sojourns. Shadow because these teams are filled with National-team wannabes and players who mirror the qualities of the nation's first-choice XI, with the expectation being that they are ready to jump in when the eventual call-up for National duty comes.

However, the second of the two multi-day matches between India-A and South Africa-A, which commences at the BCCI's Centre of Excellence in the city outskirts on Thursday, appears to have deviated from this norm.

It looks like a main event in itself, for the Indian roster has as many as eight members from the Test squad that will take on South Africa in the two-match Test series from November 14, and the visiting party has in its ranks the World Test Championship-winning captain Temba Bavuma.

The hope is now for the on-field action to match the quality on paper.

Ready to rumble: SA skipper Bavuma and India star Pant are some of the big names featuring in the match. K. MURALI KUMAR

India-A won the exciting first tie by three wickets, with off-spinner Tanush Kotian finishing with a match-haul of eight wickets (four for 83 and four for 26).

But the biggest positive was the return of Rishabh Pant, who had been out of action with a foot injury since the fourth Test against England in Manchester in July.

The swashbuckling wicketkeeper-batter made a typically brisk second-innings 90 and kept wickets, thus announcing his readiness for the rigours of five-day cricket.

Another game before the first Test in Kolkata against the Proteas will be useful to sharpen his skills further.

The likes of B. Sai Sudharsan – who opened the batting in last week's contest – and Devdutt Padikkal – who played at No. 3 – will look for some runs after accounting for just 55 across both innings.

Keenly watched

The South Africa-A side isn't as heavily loaded as the Indians', but Bavuma's return after a two-month injury lay-off will be keenly watched.

Conditions wise, only Bengaluru's unusually warm weather might imitate Kolkata's.

Bavuma sees 'massive opportunity' in Test series

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

India has been such a dominant force at home - but for the 0-3 loss to New Zealand last year - that visiting sides generally have nothing to lose.

But South Africa, this November, is coming in as the World Test Champion, and it has a standard to live up to and pedigree to protect.

"There's expectation, but for us, it's really to focus on what we've been doing as a team," said skipper Temba Bavuma, on the eve of South Africa-A's second multi-day match against India-A at the BCCI Centre of Excellence here.

"I don't think we've won a Test series here [in India] for a long time, if I'm not mistaken. So I think there's a massive opportunity there."

To excel in the sub-continent, good quality spin bowlers are essential.

Confident

Bavuma is confident that the likes of Keshav Maharaj, Simon Harmer and Senuran Muthusamy can deliver as the Proteas look for their first series triumph in India since March 2000. "Bowling has always been a strength of ours. Now, we're probably even better poised with these spin resources. We have Tristan Stubbs as well, if we need another off-spinner.

Resources ready

"If the conditions are saying that spin is the threat, then we have the resources.

"Everything else also needs to come into play. You need the batters to score the runs. We need that cushion to allow our spinners to really get into the game."

Chhetri missing in India's probables against Bangladesh

ASIAN CUP QUALIFIERS

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Indian football team head coach Khalid Jamil on Wednesday announced 23 probables for the inconsequential Asian Cup Qualifiers match against Bangladesh in Dhaka on November 18 and talismanic striker Sunil Chhetri's name is missing from the list. India is already out of contention for a berth in the main tournament to be held in Saudi Arabia in 2027 after losing its previous match against Singapore in Margao last month.

More players are likely to be added later for the national camp, starting in Bengaluru on Thursday.

The Indian team will travel to Dhaka on November 15. Meanwhile, the semifinals of the Super Cup are unlikely to be held before November 26 as FC Goa plays Al Zawraa SC of Iraq in Baghdad in its AFC Champions League Two group match on the date.

India probables:
Goalkeepers: Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, Hrithik Tiwari, Sahil.
Defenders: Akash Mishra, Anwar Ali, Bikash Yumnam, Hmingthanmawia Ralte, Muhammed Uvais, Pramveer, Rahul Bheke, Sandesh Jhingan.
Midfielders: Ashique Kuruniyan, Brison Fernandes, Lalremtluanga Fanai, Macarton Louis Nickson, Mahesh Singh Naorem, Nikhil Prabhu, Suresh Singh Wangjam.
Forwards: Irfan Yadwad, Lallianzuala Chhangte, Mohammed Sanan, Rahim Ali, Vikram Partap Singh.

LIVE TELECAST

NZ vs WI: 2nd T20I, Sony Sports Ten 1 & LIV, 11.45 a.m.
Australia vs India: 4th T20I, Star Sports 1 & JioHotstar, 1.45 p.m.
Chess: World Cup, FIDE YouTube channel, 3 p.m.
Europa League: Sony Sports Ten 2, 5 & LIV, 11.15 p.m.

What your parents meant by responsible spending.

Beyond betteR offer: On-road Price = Ex-showroom Price*

Volkswagen FASTFEST

4 year Standard Warranty
4 year Road Side Assistance
3 Free Services
Exchange through
Certified Pre-Owned
Call 1800 102 0909
volkswagen.co.in

* Terms and conditions apply. Images are for representation purpose. Features and accessories shown may not be a part of standard equipment and are subject to change without prior notice. The actual car colour may vary. The dark shade on the glass is due to the lighting effect. ** 3 Free services applicable on 1 000 kilometers, 7 500 kilometers and 15 000 kilometers. In service, only labour charges are free. To know more on the schemes, please visit your nearest Volkswagen dealership. 1% cess extra for Kerala.

Authorised Dealers: Volkswagen Bangalore East-Old Madras Road: 9513942174; **Volkswagen Bangalore North: Thanisandra: Mobile:** 7032397999, 9606988828; **Old Airport Road (Sales Point): Mobile:** 7032397999; **Volkswagen Bangalore: Hosur Road: Mobile:** 8105583597; **Volkswagen Whitefield: B. Narayanapura: Mobile:** 9900010727, 9900021210; **Volkswagen Palace Cross: Mobile:** 9686601249; **Volkswagen Bangalore South (JP Nagar): Mobile:** 7397738004; **Volkswagen Bangalore North: Hebbal: Mobile:** 7032397999, 9100995753; **Volkswagen Bangalore Central: Richmond Road: Mobile:** 7032397999, 9281147546; **Volkswagen Palace Cross: Victoria Road (DWA): Mobile:** 9900035187; **Rajajinagar (Sales Point): Mobile:** 9900049174; **Hesaraghatta (Sales Point): Mobile:** 9900049174; **Volkswagen Tumkur: Sira Main Rd: Mobile:** 7032397999, 9100919214; **Volkswagen Hubli:** (0836) 2220000, 7760984531; **Volkswagen Belgaum:** (0831) 2477777, 9900022688, 9900022691; **Volkswagen Palace cross: Mysore Road:** 9900053496; **Volkswagen Mangalore:** (0824) 2433430, 2433530, 7829142030; **Volkswagen Mysore:** 9611586240; **Volkswagen City Center (Lalbagh Road):** 7032397999, 9281096188; **Volkswagen City Store Bangalore North (Yelehanka):** 7032397999, 9100666023; **Volkswagen Hassan:** 9611586225; **Volkswagen City Store Koramangala:** 9952220000; **Volkswagen Shivamogga:** 9606024733; **Volkswagen Bangalore South (Thalakatapura):** 9952220000.
Volkswagen Palace Cross - 9686601249, 9900064401.